

20c · OCTOBER 1971

# LEGION

MAGAZINE

WHAT'S BEHIND PING PONG DIPLOMACY?

OUR LOOMING ELECTRIC POWER SHORTAGE

Our Most Underrated President: JAMES K. POLK

A REPORT FROM THE 53rd NATIONAL CONVENTION
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
Held in Houston, Texas

Clarke



#### The American

# EGIO

Magazine

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Volume 91, Number 4

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*Editor* Robert B. Pitkin

Art Editor Al Marshall

Assistant to Publisher John Andreola

Assistant Editor James S. Swartz

Associate Editor Roy Miller

Assistant Art Editor Walter H. Boll

Production Manager Art Bretzfield

Copy Editor Grail S. Hanford

Circulation Manager Dean B. Nelson Indianapolis, Ind.

#### Advertising Sales

Robert Redden Associates, Inc. 121 Cedar Lane Teaneck, N.J. 07666 201-836-5755

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# Last night John Connolly took his first sip of a really light and smooth Kentucky Bourbon. He reached The Ancient Age. MAJGET KENTUCKY BOURDON If you can find a lighter bourbon, buy it.

STRAIGHT KENTUCKY BOURBON WHISKEY · 86 PROOF

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters published do not necessarily express the policy of The American Legion. Keep letters short. Name and address must be furnished. Expressions of opinion and requests for personal service are appreciated, but they cannot be acknowledged or answered, due to lack of magazine staff for these purposes. Requests for personal services which may be legitimately asked of The American Legion should be made to your Post Service Officer or your state (Department) American Legion Hq. Send eltters to the editor to: Letters. The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019.

#### DESTROYING THE DUMP PILES

SIR: Your article, "The Easiest Way to Destroy the Dump Piles" (August), on how buyers can make recycling happen was the most constructive thing I've read on pollution control-a way to act instead of just grouse that's open to us all. May I point out that (possibly after you went to press) it became possible for small photographic processors to salvage the silver from used chemicals, so that it's no longer true that only big processors can afford to do so? One company that sells silver-reclaiming gadgetry for small film-developing outfits (for something under \$10) advertises that it will even buy the reclaimed silver.

JACK N. MEYERS San Francisco, Calif.

True. How well these work, we don't know. Interested readers can probably get details from one of the consumer photography magazines, Modern Photography or Popular Photography, both of which have published some information on this.

sir: I know where to send my cans, but was wondering if you could help me find out what to do with bottles and jars.

JACK D. WYATT Imperial Beach, Calif.

Billions of old bottles and jars are now being collected from the public in voluntary projects, and melted down for reuse. However, they are all collected in local projects, and in the vicinity of a glassworks that can take them.

In many communities, the Boy Scouts manage the collection, and the public brings the bottles in, at a published place and time. In others, permanent collection centers are set up, where householders can take their bottles any time they please. In still others, glass company trucks visit a cooperating church or Legion Post or Elks Lodge (or you name it) at stated times. The organization provides volunteers to help with the work and, again, householders bring in their collected bottles.

But it is always done locally, so we have no national information of general use to just anyone, just anywhere, who wants to add his bottles to the collection.

Most bottles and jars come in three colors—clear, green and amber (brownish). The one thing the glassworks want the public to do is to separate them by

color. The collectors usually have bins or trucks for the collection of each color.

#### A TIME AND MONEY SAVER

SIR: Just want to say a huge "Thank You" for so many money- and time-saving tips appearing in your Life in the Outdoors page. One tip a Mr. Hill told about saved me almost \$50...and other tips sure helped. Keep it up!

G. J. BYRA Seattle, Wash.

#### PRO & CON

sir: Many thanks for the opportunity to send my Congressman my opinion on the enactment of a national service program ("Should We Enact A National Service Program?" August). I marked my ballot Pro.

As a magazine devoted to informing its veteran readership, I pray that you will keep this program alive in the future issues—reporting the House and Senate arguments, pro and con, and by whom.

ALEXANDER P. GRAESSLE

Nutley, N.J.

#### CAREERS IN MEDICINE

SIR: We have read with great interest the July article, "A Survey of Careers That Need Filling in American Medicine." It should prove helpful in making more people aware of the outstanding opportunities available for rewarding lives in these expanding fields.

Here at Greenville Technical Education Center we offer 14 different programs in the paramedical and paradental fields, all of which meet accrediting standards of the appropriate arm of the American Medical Association. Though only three years old, we have already earned formal accreditation for nearly half the programs. Greenville TEC's Allied Health Science Division, made possible in large part by Appalachian funds, is to our knowledge the only building in the country conceived, designed and in operation exclusively for health careers.

Again, on behalf of our 500-plus students, thank you for the information you provided your public on health careers.

WILLIAM D. WORKMAN, III
Chairman, Medical Programs
Greenville Technical Education Center
Greenville, S.C.

#### MAKING OUT WITHOUT THE DRAFT

SIR: I agree wholeheartedly with Leavitt A. Knight, Jr.'s article "What the Army Is Doing to Make Out Without the Draft" (April).

I came to Vietnam in June 1966 as a civilian contractor and have remained in the same capacity ever since. I've worked at both large and small installations from the Delta to the DMZ. This has afforded me the opportunity to work, live and play alongside almost every type of person here.

Many of the innovations suggested by (Continued on page 4)

# Most automatic rifles are as accurate as you are...for at least the first shot. But what about the second? And the third?

Automatic rifle accuracy starts with your ability to recover from the first shot's recoil. Here's how the Remington Model 742 helps you...straight from the men who designed it.

The real key to hunting accuracy with an automatic is its speed of operation. If the rifle ejects and chambers cartridges too quickly (which is often the case), most hunters have a hard time recovering from recoil and barrel whip. If the rifle operates too slowly, a hunter may lose the extra-shot advantage he bought the rifle for in the first place. Somewhere between "too fast" and "too slow" is an optimum. So, the Remington designers set out to build a truly modern automatic rifle with an optimum rate of operation...a rate that would let a hunter make the most of the accuracy built into the rifle. The result of their efforts is the Remington Model 742.

The 742's rate of operation is engineered to help a hunter fire several shots quickly and maintain his sight plane from shot to shot, without changing position or grip. This rate is fast enough to maintain the automatic advantage... yet slow enough to give the hunter a big edge in his recovery from recoil. Which leads up to the second big reason why a rifle's

operating speed is important: recoil reduction.

If the rifle mechanism operates too fast, a recoil reduction system really doesn't have a chance to be effective. And if the rate is too slow, it isn't needed because the hunter has plenty of time to recover ... at the expense, perhaps, of additional shots. Essentially, the system in the Model 742 operates like most other automatic rifles. But here's where Remington designers used some engineering imagination.

The recoil force is more than required to operate the mech-

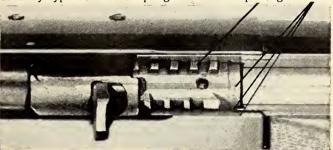
anism...and more than enough to give you a jolt. So, by capturing the peak of the recoil force in what Remington designers call an "Inertia Sleeve", that peak recoil force is split. This means you receive a softened initial recoil push.

Now the real advantage is obvious.

You're set for your next shot quicker with the 742 than with other types of rifles. And the more experience you have with the 742, the steadier you should become. That means greater control. And greater control means you have a better chance

of keeping your sight picture from shot to shot.

Like every Remington rifle and shotgun, the 742 has certain features we think you'll want to know about. Like the "Teflon"-S\*\* coating we've added to interior moving parts. The result is longer wear, smoother operation and easier cleaning. And the artillery-type bolt locks up safe and strong. In fact, the action is so safe and so strong that the 742 and its moving parts perform effortlessly despite bad weather. The artillery-type bolt locks up tight with multiple lugs. Three



Cutaway of M/742 receiver showing bolt locking system.

rings of solid steel completely enclose the cartridge head.

A rich blueing, "vibra-honed" parts with a mirror-like finish, Du Pont RK-W wood finish (just about the most rugged finish available) make the 742 owner a proud one.

The 742 comes in five great calibers: 6mm Rem., 280 Rem., 30-06, 308 Win., 243 Win. And you have your choice of an ADL or BDL "Custom Deluxe." The BDL "Custom Deluxe," incidentally, is available in right- and left-hand cheekpiece models. There's an 18½" barrel carbine that's great for hunting in brush, too. All feature black fore-end caps, white line spacers, clip magazines and receivers that are drilled and tapped for scope mounts. Priced from \$169.95\*, the 742 offers a hunter tremendous dollar value. Finally, you ought to know that we test and prove the Model 742 with Remington and Peters ammunition. So, if you're after top performance, it makes sense to use Remington or Peters ammunition. Right?

This report about the Model 742 (we call it the "Woodsmaster") and all other Remington Reports are based on information straight from the men who design and engineer every Remington product. If you'd like to save your Remington Reports, we'll send you a folder to keep them in. And for even more details, send a postcard to: Remington Arms Company, Inc., Dept. 261, Bridgeport, Conn. 06602, for a free copy of our 1971 full-color Remington catalog.



Authentic.



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each drop goes only the finest whiskies from the Highlands, the Lowlands, the Hebrides.

Dewar's never varies

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CONTINUED

#### **LETTERS**

TO THE EDITOR

Generals Westmoreland, Rogers, et al., have been put into practice here. For instance, at one small fire base the liquor and/or beer intake was controlled but to the extent that it was almost non-existent, except in the officers' mess. However, due to the insight of a very knowing, "mustang" type major, a new order went out on his second day of command to the effect that "there will be a ration of two cans of beer, per man, issued at the evening meal." The company's morale seemed to improve 100% almost overnight.

Prior to the major being assigned as C.O., we had a "spit and polish" type, straight out of the states. Many needless, petty regulations were kept in effect at a forward fire base! This was an asinine practice even to us ex-GI's whom it didn't affect. We could see and hear the results working with the men each day. The above-mentioned change was only one of many initiated by the major, and the results did nothing but improve the esprit de corps or the operating efficiency of the unit. With more such men in responsible positions, using common horse sense, I can see no reason why an all-volunteer army could not

James A. Meadows
Saigon, R.V.N.

#### BACK TO WAMPUM?

SIR: "The Things We've Used For Money," in the August issue, in its entertaining and informative history of U.S. currency, notes that we once used wampum as a medium of exchange. In view of what's happening to the world money market in recent months, could we not stabilize by switching back to wampum?

L. B. N. GNAEDINGER New York, N.Y.

#### HURTING OUR FUTURE

sir: I have just read the article in the July issue, "How We're Hurting Our Future With False Ideas." It is one of the most sensible articles I have ever read. It ought to remind many to think; and refuse to give ear to the extreme nonsense being uttered in such large volume today.

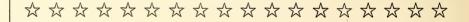
Y. D. MATHES Washington, D.C.

#### THANKS FOR LEGIONNAIRES ASSIST

sir: Having spent the last three months in the VA Hospital in Sioux Falls, S.D., and Minneapolis, I wish to acclaim the Legion and the Legion Auxiliary for all the fine things they do for veterans in the VA hospitals. I say keep up the good work. I and every other patient look forward to your visits.

Paul D. Kent Redfield, S.D.

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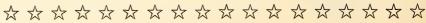


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Payment of dues entitles a member to 12 issues of this magazine. Early payment one year and late payment the next may result in a lapse in the subscription. To insure continued delivery, a member should pay his dues in October, the beginning of the Legion year. Post officers should forward the membership renewals immediately to reduce delays in updating the mailing list.



#### Dateline Washington . . .



PLIGHT OF THE 40-PLUS. NEW LAW AIDS FBI. CRANKING UP COPYRIGHT ACT.

The plight of the middle-aged worker, in his 50's, 40's or even late 30's, is receiving increasing attention as unemployment of this age group continues to rise—intensified by plant shutdowns and the fading away of entire industries.

Commenting on a new study by the National Council of Senior Citizens, Senators Frank Church (Idaho) and Jennings Randolph (W. Va.), chairman and a subcommittee chairman of the Senate's Special Committee on Aging, said this group of middle Americans lives in a

manpower no man's land.

More than a million workers 45 or over are now jobless—400,000 more than in early 1969, and their periods of idleness last longer than any other age group. After retirement, these older Americans, faced with shrinking pension and Social Security dollars, must find part-time employment to eke out a living. The Senior Citizens Council is urging legislation to provide direct federal help to older workers.

The Organized Crime Control Act of 1970 is already proving to be an effective tool in fighting crime syndicates throughout the United States, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover reports. In the past year, FBI agents arrested more than 700 persons and confiscated more than \$9 million in cash, property and gambling paraphernalia under the law enacted last October.

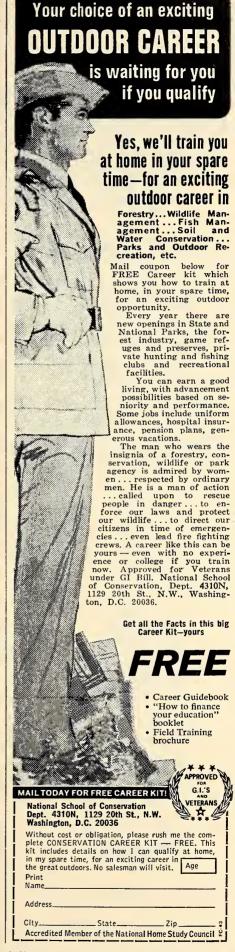
Thefts of securities from financial institutions is the newest wrinkle of organized crime. More than 60 criminals were arrested and \$20 million in stolen stocks and bonds recovered. During the past year, over 630 hoodlum, gambling and vice figures were convicted following FBI investigations. Convictions in all FBI cases last fiscal year soared to an all-time high of 13,357.

An ancient "turn of the century" statute will have to wait at least another year before it can be revised to cope with today's electronic age. The Copyright Act of 1909, which protects authors, composers and publishers by stipulating royalty payments, was enacted before the advent of copying machines, jukeboxes and cable television.

Congress has been stalled on dead center for seven years following the recommendations of a blue-ribbon panel of copyright experts. Latest hitch in plans to modernize the 1909 law is cable TV. Now a Senate Judiciary subcommittee wants to wait until the Federal Communications Commission issues its long delayed CATV regulations, perhaps in December.

Meanwhile, authors and composers are suffering out the seventh extension of copyrights expiring December 31st. After passing the Senate, a rocky road is anticipated in the House, where leaders last year vowed that this was the last extension they would bring

before the members.



# Did you help make J.W. Dant the largest selling popular-priced bond in America?



Thanks, Mr. Bourbon Lover.

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#### LIFE IN THE OUTDOORS

## **Shoestring Camping**

A CAMPING trip need not be an expensive project. You don't have to take all the equipment in the manuals, though with today's products you can build on a basic outfit with only the sky as the limit on what you might spend if you please.

The experienced backwoodsman can get along with just a pocketknife, compass, map and dry matches. Most of us need a little more comfort, however. Add to the above a 9 x 12-foot piece of thick vinyl plastic you can erect on poles as a lean-to to keep out the weather, some heavy twine for anchoring it, netting to keep out the black flies and mosquitoes, and an air mattress for sleeping. Also a blanket if the weather is cool. You'll need a flashlight or two, a piece of soap wrapped in aluminum foil (not the whole cake), part of a roll of toilet paper, and a pocket mirror. Each person will want his own washcloth and small towel, toothpaste and brush, comb, also a plastic dish, cup and utensils. You can borrow a cooking pot, a coffee pot and frying pan from your home kitchen. Use dehydrated foods; they're light and not bulky. And don't forget a small first-

For a little more comfort, and cost, take along a sleeping bag; the mummy type folds into the smallest bundle. Buy a thick one for cold weather, a thin one for warm seasons. It is lighter and more compact than a woolen blanket. Goose down insulation is best but expensive (\$60 up); polyester stuffing is adequate in warmer-than-freezing weather (\$20). And a tent is another luxury. a small two-man 6-pound nylon mountain tent with a sewn-in floor, a zippered-netting door, and an easily erected frame of aluminum tubing (\$80). Carry everything in a backpack, either a knapsack, rucksack or packboard (\$10 to \$40). Your sleeping bag and tent strap to the bottom of it. Load it to no more than 30 pounds if you're not in top physical shape, 15 pounds for a woman. For rain gear, wear a plastic or nylon poncho which will cover you completely, including your pack: a regular raincoat will provide little protection when you're active in the woods. Don't carry a hatchet; it's heavy and practically worthless. A hunting knife also is of little use unless you intend to dress large game. You can break enough dead wood with your hands for your fire; your pocketknife will shave enough chips to get it started. For further information read: "Backcountry Camping" by Bill Riviere. published by Doubleday & Co., Garden City. New York. Price \$6.95.

ON camping trips, pack your canned foods in a cardboard box so only the tops show, and on each top write the contents with a felt marking pen, suggests Zelda Kolman of Kensington, Md. This makes them easy to identify.

TO avoid fatigue when exercising in hot weather, due to loss of salt in excessive perspiration, doctors advise you to take salt tablets. These tablets, called "Thermotabs." are available in drugstores in strip packs.

PORTABLE water heater for campers is the "Little Sizzler," a unit that is 15 inches high and seven inches in diameter, weighs eight pounds and operates on a small propane tank. Dip its tube in a brook or lake



Little Sizzler gives streamside hot water.

and another tube emits gallons of hot water for instant coffee, washing, shaving, etc. Price: about \$50 from: Instant Hot Water, Inc., 117 East 27th South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84106.

"SPORT FISHING U. S. A." is the title of a new 464-page volume published by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of Interior and written by 43 top writers and scientists in the field. With 21 color painting and other illustrations. it's one of the best books you can buy on the subject. Available for \$10 from the Superintendent of Documents. U. S. Government Printing Office, Wash. D.C., 20402. Ask for Stock Number 2410-0235.

CAR door locks have a bad habit of freezing during cold wet weather. To prevent this, suggests L. Sierzputowski of Chicago, Ill., before leaving your parked car, put a small patch of tape over the keyhole of one of the locks to keep out moisture.

**POUNDING** the tight cap of a jar to loosen it isn't necessary, advises Mrs. Roger Cosmo of Derby, N.Y. Put a rubber band around the cap so you can get a non-slip grip.

If you have a helpful idea for this feature send it in. If we can use it we'll pay you \$5.00. However, we cannot acknowledge, return, or enter into correspondence concerning contributions. Address: Outdoor Editor, The American Legion Magazine, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019.

Now, 110 years after the conflict that split the nation, the Lincoln Mint is proud to announce the minting of a limited edition of

The History of the Civil War



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individually numbered and registered in the subscriber's name, in costly .999 Pure Silver (the purest silver modern metallurgy can produce), and one in antiqued, hand-relieved Solid Bronze.

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Predictably, these unique, intrinsically valuable issues will be widely sought after—not only by collectors and investors but by thousands of families with a sense of pride in our national heritage. However, these historic first editions will be reserved for a limited number of subscribers.

Only 5,000 Pure Silver sets and 5,000 antiqued Solid Bronze sets will be struck. Sets will be allocated on the basis of postmark time and date with a limit of one set per subscriber. Once maximum quantities are allocated, additional subscription applications will be returned. To protect their future value, no additional sets of these first editions will ever be minted.

#### You Will Receive Two Medals a Month

Providing subscription rolls have not been filled, your first two medals will be delivered shortly after your subscription is received. (You will also receive a handsome free album to display your collection.) Thereafter, you will receive two medals a and only \$4.50 each in Solid Bronze. (Moreover, the mint guarantees these prices will not be raised during the term of your subscription regardless of rising prices in the International Metals Market.)

month for the balance of 20 months and an invoice for the next month's medals.

Each medal will be 1% inches in diameter, about the size of a half-dollar, pre-

cisely struck to emphasize the rich detail of the engraving. Because of their first

edition status, you might expect to pay a

considerable premium for them. However, the price has been set at just \$8.50 per medal in Pure Silver (with each medal containing a full 397 grains of costly metal)

But it must be emphasized that, once subscription rolls for this offering are filled, you may never again be able to acquire these unique medals at any priceunless you can persuade a subscriber or his heirs to part with a set. Moreover, the earlier the postmark on your reservation, the lower your registration number—a significant point if you are collecting for investment purposes. It is advisable, therefore, to mail your application at once.

#### Created for the collector of fine proof-quality medals—in a limited edition of 5,000 sets

Over a century now separates us from the tragic war between the states. Its last battle was fought in 1865. The youngest drummer

boy of its mighty armies is long dead.
Yet, over 100 years later, Americans still recall the fields of Shiloh, Antietam, and Gettysburg. We still revere the memories of Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson. We are still stirred by the deeds of Sheridan, Farragut, and Forrest. We still take pride in our nation's ability to find new strength in the healing of its deepest wounds.

#### A Unique and Enduring Addition to the Annals of the Civil War

To us of The Lincoln Mint, this continuing significance makes it appropriate to undertake a major program never attempted before. It is to give the war between the states, its heroes, and their deeds a commemoration more enduring than the memory of man or the pages of school books—with a distinguished, limited edition of *The History of the Civil War* in medallic art form of lasting beauty and substantial intrinsic value.

#### Guided by a Distinguished Board

To assist us, we drew upon the knowledge of five Civil War scholars: Miss Josephine Cobb of the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C.; Professor John Hope Franklin, University of Chicago; Mr. William Kaland, collector of Civil War graphic materials; Mr. Chris Mackel of the Civil War Token and Medal Society; and Mr. Ralph Newman, Lincoln scholar and proprietor of Chicago's Abraham Lincoln Bookstore.

We asked these experts to review the whole panorama of the Civil War and to select those events most far-reaching in their effects. Based on their decisions, we are now creating the dies for 40 individual medals—each portraying a landmark event of the conflict.

These meticulously engraved dies will be used to strike two limited, proof-quality editions exclusively for subscribers—one,

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	Civil War live again in the lavishly illustrated pages of Mathew Brady, Historian with a Camera, the handsome hard cover book bonus included free with your subscription.
D. P. 11:	Milliation

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(Subscription is not valid unless signed)				

ANY INTELLIGENT American who really looks into it must come to at least five conclusions about electric power in the United States. These five are:

- 1. We are so far behind in power development for the years just ahead that power shortages hang over us today like the sword of Damocles, with a potential for all sorts of scrious trouble.
- 2. Every *traditional* source of electric power (coal, oil, water, wind) is either widely unacceptable or inadequate for the continued expansion of U.S. electric power that should be under way now.

3. The best immediate remedy is to accelerate our installation of atomic power plants, and push as hard as possible to develop successful (uranium-saving) breeder-reactor power plants.

4. A fast-as-possible switch to atomic power is the answer not only to our electric power crisis but to nearly all the environmental objections to more and bigger power plants.

5. The development of the new power we need is being hamstrung by people who hardly know or care about what they are talking about. Thanks to the public airing that their often irresponsible scare statements get—and thanks to the generous official machinery available



and transportation that it's needless to beat the reader over the head with the message that today's electric power supply is already marginal for today's needs.

Less visible than a dramatic blackout after the sun goes down is the limitation of power for industry—on which many jobs depend. When electricity is short, big power-using industries, like paper, aluminum, steel, etc., can't operate or have to cut back. Their layoffs affect the whole economy.

The Pacific Northwest is in real trouble for industrial power, while unemployment is at a recent high there. Industrial New England is power short, too. In New York City, Consolidated Edison always used to urge people to use more electricity. This spring, its whole advertising campaign was aimed at getting its customers to cut down on their use of Con Ed's product.

energy available in more than 30 million barrels of oil a day. By the year 2000 we'll need 170 quadrillion BTU's, most of it electricity. That's about 2½ times what we used in 1970. One of the things for which we need more power is the pollution cleanup. Both on-site industrial cleanups and the recycling of many used materials depend heavily on increased power consumption. But we are falling behind the pace—even for today.

The House Committee on Small Business recently concluded that power disruptions will increase in number and severity unless we take immediate action. And even if we do, it said, it would still take five years "to assure freedom from brownouts and shortages."

We have not yet experienced the calamity of an extremely serious blackout. A seven-day blackout in a big city in winter could bring on almost unimaginable

BLACK STAR

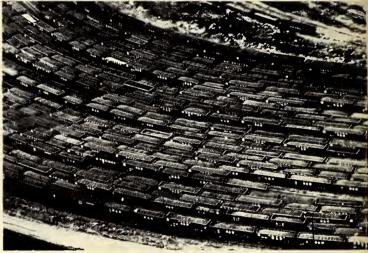




We haven't enough oil to rely on it for our basic electricity needs.



Water power is clean, but not nearly enough could be developed for our needs.



We have enough coal for a long time, but it is a terrible air polluter, while mining it destroys the landscape. And when it is gone it will be gone for all future times.

to private citizens to delay and circumvent power development—the influence of irresponsible people in retarding the development of atomic power (and sometimes conventional power, too) is out of all proportion to their good judgment and knowledge.

Let's look at these one at a time.

1. We are far behind.

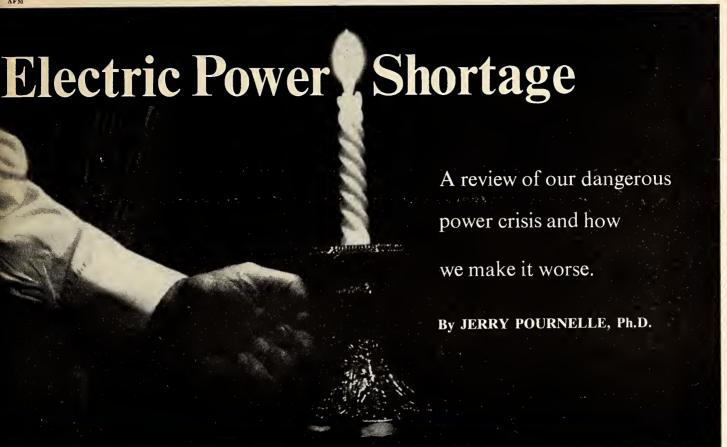
Our present power shortage is well known. Brownouts and blackouts now crop up all over the country. In many cities an accident to existing generators brings on a crisis. Blackouts and deliberate voltage reductions have so increasingly plagued households, offices Meanwhile, our demands for electricity are constantly rising. More electricity than enough for today is a must for our growing population or any hoped-for return to a booming prosperity. In the long run, our whole economic position here and abroad (which means your income and mine) depends on our power resources keeping ahead of our growing demands for electricity.

Our actual needs to match our plotted growth are about as follows. In 1970, we used more than half the world's energy supply—70 quadrillion BTU's of energy, or enough to lift 200 trillion gallons of water a mile high. That equals the usable

chaos, as any reader can fancy if he will catalog all the things that can't move without juice available at the throw of a switch. If it ever happens, such a reader will find that there were complications he'd overlooked.

In the present situation we are coming ever closer to such a possibility. Big city power plants are contracting to draw on emergency power from great distances to meet their peak loads. But in the mild-weather, one-day blackout that hit the East in 1968, even eastern Canada was affected. (Canada is one of the sources that N.Y. city taps for emergency juice when it can't meet peak loads.)





The power industry has run into a situation in which people don't want more conventional power plants belching more smoke. At the same time they don't want a big swing to atomic power for fear of radiation and accidental nu clear exposions.

One of the chief reasons we're run ning short of power is local opposition to any form of new power plant that can be built today. To suggest building a particular plant of any particular kind at any particular place raises hostility and opposition from just about everyone who will also raise hell if the power goes off at his premises. While the power companies haven't always shown good

judgment in their proposals for new plants, it's getting so that any new power project can be endlessly delayed and/or defeated politically by real or fancied objections.

The average layman cannot imagine how preposterous some of these objections are. Two years ago, great cries went up about the amount of radiation being produced by the 16 nuclear power plants then operating in the United States. There was all sorts of scare talk about leukemia, etc. These plants, altogether, introduce into our environment in one year about as much atomic radiation as is found in the miniscule amount of radioactive potassium in one can of beer!

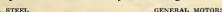
Or as much as you would get by increasing your elevation by 20 inches, getting that much closer to radiation from space.

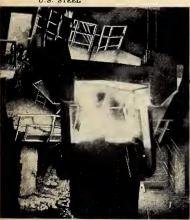
2. Traditional sources of electric energy (non-nuclear) are inadequate or unacceptable for continued expansion.

Our choices of energy for electricity are quite limited. Of seven known primary sources, only two are technically able to provide the expansion we need right now.

The seven basic sources of possible electric energy are:

- a. Vegetable life. During the life of a green plant it captures and stores the sun's energy. We release it, even millions of years later, by burning the plant's remains. Bulk sources of vegetable fuel for electric power are coal, oil and natural gas.
  - b. Direct energy from sunlight.
- c. Water. Falling water, tides or waves. These hold stored-up energy from the sun (and in the case of tides, from the moon's gravity and the earth's spin).
- d. Wind. It is powered by the sun's energy and by the earth's spin and its yearly trip around the sun. If we could tap ocean currents for our power needs, that'd be essentially the same kind of source as wind.
- e. Geothermal energy—heat that is under the earth's surface.
- f. Nuclear fission. Its energy is released when a complex atom is changed to simpler ones. This is the principle of







Steel, aluminum, copper, glass all use prodigious quantities of electricity. Human and industrial needs will, in 30 years, require  $2^1/2$  times the power we used in 1970.

### **Our Looming Electric Power Shortage**

the uranium-based atom bomb, and of our present nuclear power plants. We can control the action to make a big bang or a slow heat source.

g. Nuclear fusion. Its energy is released when simple atoms are changed to more complex atoms (hydrogen to helium).

That's the end of the list of such energy sources.

There are some possible ways to get power by new processes, but the basic energy used would still have to come from one of the seven named sources. One hope (not yet feasible) is that new methods could use much more of the heat from the original source than we are now able to. Saving energy is like finding energy. About 70%—more or less—of the energy in power plant fuels is now lost in the generating process.

There are some dreamy suggestions for other basic sources of power—one being to capture and use energy from the earth's rotation by some new direct method. This is not yet possible, and hardly advisable. The laws of mechanics say that for every bit of energy we steal from the earth's rotation, that rotation would slow down. Aside from eventual disastrous effects, that would mean

J. E. POURNELLE

practical ways to catch it (and store it for when the sun isn't shining) aren't apt to exist for a long time, if ever. Any screen that we can make now to catch the sunlight that falls on 10% of the state of Arizona would only match the power output of about two conventional coal-burning power plants—and it would be turned off at night. It is important to portant quantities cannot be readily stored everywhere. When you throw a you use that instant. Battery storage for all of our needs would require literally mountain ranges of batteries.

Solar screens in space are a far-out proposal today to trap the sun's heat that goes past us in space, where there's no night or clouds. A grid, several miles across, would be parked in space to catch the sun's heat there and beam it by microwave to a grid some ten miles square on earth. This would add to the total energy available on earth, and new screens could be sent up indefinitely.

NASA tells me that solar screens are possible in the future if we can knock the cost of putting a pound in orbit down to about \$50. That won't happen in the

Our sunshine is loaded with energy, but remember that electric power in imswitch, a generator makes the power

Atomic power is clean, quiet. This is the control room of the San Onofre (Calif.) nuclear plant, which silently and smokelessly generates a third as much power as Hoover Dam. San Onofre's exterior is shown on next page.

longer, hotter days for air conditioning, and longer colder nights for furnaces.

Only two of the seven prime energy sources make any sense as a base for the power that we must develop rapidly. They are (a) burning vegetable remains and (b) atomic fission.

The others have these failings:

Direct energy from sunshine, Earthbased solar furnaces are out for the present as a basic national power source. next 30 years without a lot more money for space research. Many of those who attack new power sources on earth also attack all advances in technology—with political effect. We've cut NASA's budget to the bone. Solar screens in space are worth remembering, though, if we ever decide to stop retreating from technology and get on with the space pro-

Water. No effective means of harness-

ing waves and tides to provide our national power needs has ever been devised. All efforts have produced small amounts of power for the investment-insignificant amounts.

Falling water is an excellent and clean power source. We have already exploited the best sources. If we go on building high dams, we might get enough additional power to meet one year's growth. We went to coal and oil burners because of the inadequacy of water power to meet our total needs.

Wind. Wind can't be relied upon for power when you need it. Its unreliability makes further conjectures about trapping the wind fruitless. Wind is a primitive source of undependable small power yields. Like the waves (which the wind creates) and direct sunshine, it holds an enormous reservoir of power which is too widely diffused to be trapped economically on a large scale.

Geothermal energy. We are a long, long way from tapping the intense heat deep in the earth. Geyser-basin, shallowdepth steam is already being tapped, and will be tapped more. It is purely local and not a basic source for national needs.

Nuclear fusion. This is the principle of the hydrogen bomb. We've never found a way to control the speed of the reaction. It is big bang or nothing.

We ought to push fusion power research as hard as we can. If we can make fusion happen slowly, we will have solved man's energy problem for all time. There are enough hydrogen atoms available to give us all the power we'd ever need. Unlike uranium, it is the most plentiful element in the universe. The Soviets are putting a lot of resources into fusion power research. Our own program, though not starving, could use more support. Every few years, a new development that seems to bring us a little closer to the goal of a "slow hydrogen bomb" is announced. Those who think we'll reach it figure it'll take at least 40 years. There's no evidence that slow fusion would pollute. It probably would not. But nobody really knows, since no fusion generator has ever worked.

Thus-though falling water will always be a clean, secondary energy base -only two of the seven potentials can be the prime source of the new power we need over the next generation-nuclear fission based on uranium and the burning of vegetable remains.

It is in choosing between these two that any intelligent American must vote against continued reliance on vegetable fuels. They pollute, and are vanishing.

Oil, natural gas and coal—the chief sources of our present electric powerare all the remains of plants that grew millions of years ago. They all pollute, and the world supply is being used up rapidly.

We can't supply future U.S. energy needs from our oil and natural gas. We use natural gas faster than we can find it. There isn't enough oil in this country, even in "theoretical reserves," to last us 40 years as the main source of electric power. Imported oil could keep us going longer, but to rely on imports for our most vital energy supply would put us at the mercy of other nations. And in the end it too will run out. That leaves coal.

There is enough coal here to last 100 years and maybe much longer, but our best coal fields are high in sulfur con-

Even so, we must use fossil fuels for many years to come because we've been too slow to make the best use of clean nuclear power. The utilities and their equipment suppliers have developed techniques for containing much of the pollution that burning our irreplaceable fuels inevitably generates. Arizona Public Service and other companies cooperating in the new boilers at Four Corners, N.M., have spent over \$50 million on air pollution control equipment. Even so, the crystal clear skies and big horizons we used to see out there are gone. In recent satellite photos, the smoke plume

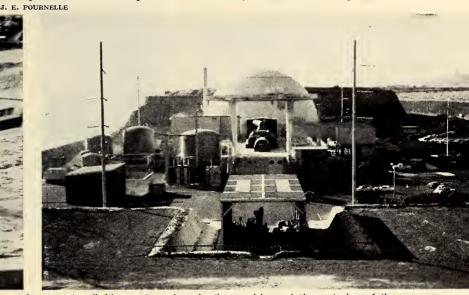
conjectured that fly ash, reflecting sunlight back into space, is thus far just balancing the carbon dioxide blanket's warming effect.

Conclusion: We should get rid of vegetable burners as fast as we can.

3. The best immediate solution is to go nuclear fast, and push hard to develop big electric plants that use breeder reactors.

Nuclear fission overcomes all the chiet objections to generators powered by fire. It is immaculately clean. The objections to vegetable fuels are real. Many of the scariest objections to nuclear power are





Southern California Edison's roaring Mojave Station coal generator (left), most modern in the world—and the exterior of the same firm's San Onofre nuclear plant (right). Nearest neighbor, on ridge at far right, is President Nixon's summer White House.

tent. A 3,000 megawatt (3,000 MWe) coal-fired generating station puts a half-million tons of corrosive sulfur dioxide in the atmosphere each year. Various smoke-cleaning devices cut this down, but they're expensive and don't get it all.

Coal also produces a powder-fine floating grit called "fly ash." Even with 99% efficient ash removal, a 3,000 MWe boiler will release 7.500 tons of fly ash a year. The plant also will generate a million tons of trapped ashes to be disposed of, and 100,000 tons of smog-producing oxides of nitrogen. It'll use 7,800,000 tons of coal a year. Whole freight trains have to run daily to bring in fuel.

If we keep depending on coal for our energy, by the year 2000 we'll have to rip 10 million tons a day out of the ground so we can set fire to it. But as conservationists rightly point out, when we use our fossil resources there won't be any more—ever. It took millions of years to form them, and the day approaches when mankind will have burned nearly all of them, leaving none for our descendants. The strip mines for ripping out millions of tons of coal each day will disfigure our wild lands, no matter how carefully coal companies act to reclaim those areas once the mining has stopped.

from Four Corners could be seen from a distance at which all other signs of man were invisible.

The utilities have spent hundreds of millions on pollution control equipment and research and they'll spend a lot more. Coal companies are sponsoring research on ways to turn coal into liquids and gases for cleaner burning. But the resources of our technology are up against the unsolvable. Even if they get all the fly ash, oxides of nitrogen and sulfur. and other smog producers out of the stack gases, millions of tons of carbon dioxide will pour out of each boiler every day. This they cannot stop. It is the formation of the carbon dioxide that liberates the heat that makes the electricity in any generator powered by fire.

You can take your choice of predictions of the ultimate result of creating all this excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Climatologists agree that it acts like a "heat blanket," to warm our atmosphere by trapping some of the sun's heat that usually radiates back into space. In the long run, some say, it will melt the glaciers and drown our seaboards in the resultant raising of the sea level. Others say the warming will increase polar snowfall, to bring on a new ice age. No warming effect has yet been noted, and it is

labored, implausible and supported by utter falsehoods. Nuclear plants have been generating electricity all over the world for 15 years, without a harmful incident affecting the public. Britain installed the first one in 1956. She still leads the world in the use of nuclear energy for public power (and have you breathed the air in London lately?). The Duquesne Light Co., in Pittsburgh, put the first nuclear power plant in operation in the United States in 1957. By 1970, we had 16 in operation, and by last April five more—making 21 in all. Fifty-six more are now under construction and 44 are on order. By 1980, we should have 121 in operation. About a quarter of all the power in the United States will then be nuclear.

The one real objection to unlimited use of nuclear power lies in the possible rapid exhaustion of available uranium. It is not a plentiful element, and for every 1,000 pounds of natural uranium only seven pounds are "hot." The other 993 pounds are "cold"—slowly radioactive, but not fissionable for energy production.

However, breeder reactors have long since successfully used some of the particles thrown off by the reaction of "hot" uranium to transform the "cold" uranium into plutonium, which is "hot."

#### **Our Looming Electric Power Shortage**

The same process can make "hot" uranium out of "cold" thorium, and thorium is much more plentiful in nature than uranium.

Thus a breeder reactor can manufacture far more fuel than it uses-a trick unknown to coal and oil. A smoothly operating breeder serving double duty commercially as a power plant has not yet been designed. The most frustrating accident the Atomic Energy Commission ever suffered was the melt-down of two fuel elements in the Fermi plant in Michigan in 1966. The Fermi plant was the AEC's first experimental breeder power plant. It was to give some electricity to Detroit and manufacture more fuel than it used. A mechanical fault started an overheating reaction which was promptly stopped by built-in emergency systems. Two of the fuel elements were destroyed and Fermi was out of operation until just recently.

The breeder-reactor power plant is the key to plentiful, clean power far, far into the future. If we build enough breeders, by 1995 we could close down the mines.

A breeder and a power plant are two different things. Central problems in designing a combined breeder-generator are (1) to manage the much greater heat that's produced, and (2) to overcome the economic handicap to a power plant when breeder design is added to its cost.

The Soviets are working harder than we are to make the hydrogen bomb reaction happen slowly. If it can be done, man's power needs could be solved for all time. Above, the "Tokamak-6" plasma loop of the Soviet atomic energy institute, which has advanced "slow fusion" research.

A third central problem is development money. Our breeder program deserves more public support than it is

Various power companies and manufacturers have pooled their private money to push breeder research, but the cost of experimental plants is beyond their reach. Atomics International Division of North American Rockwell has designs for a large, fast breeder reactor which they say will release essentially zero radiation to the environment.

NORTH AMERICAN ROCKWELL ATOMICS INTERNATIONAL

We need more atomic power plants fast. To save fissionable uranium we need to push the development of practical "breeder" nuclear power plants, which can make more fuel than they use. We have three experimental breeders and a bigger one building. Above, sketch of even bigger breeder-generator developed by Atomics Internat'l Div. of North American Rockwell.

The U.S. government is backing breeder development, but lags-even though our scientists invented it. The Soviet Union expects to have a reliable dual purpose plant by 1980. The British, French, West Germans and Japanese also will probably have working breeders before we do, unless President Nixon's recent statements in support of the program speed things up.

A series of ever larger experimental breeder-generators is needed to come up with the eventual smoothly operating big. double duty plant in commercial use.

We have early model Atomic Energy Commission test breeders today in Idaho. Arkansas and Michigan. Westinghouse is building a bigger one for the AEC in Richland, Washington. In the same state, an earlier test breeder is producing rather costly electricity locally. General Electric designed and operates the Sefor breeder in Fayetteville, Ark. Interest in it is so great that the West German Republic put up some of the needed money.

When experimental plants have paved the way, later ones will tumble in cost. This will probably happen faster than anyone predicts. About 20 years ago, experts said that nuclear power plants could never operate in economic competition with coal. They've been doing it for ten years.

should have the controlled hydrogen fusion reaction that could solve our energy needs forcver—if that is possible.

A breeder can make more fuel from

"cold" uranium and thorium than it uses. "Cold" material that isn't converted the first time through can be run

through again and again until it is all "hot." The new "hot" fuel can breed

morc. Successful breeder power plants

can thus keep us going until all the

world's uranium and thorium are used

up. Thanks to unexploited uranium, and

the great abundance of thorium, there's

fuel enough around for breeders for

thousands of years. Long before then we

4. Nuclear plants are the answer to the major objections leveled against the great expansion of power plants that we need today.

Nuclear plants are clean and quiet. No fly ash, no sulfur or nitrogen gases, no carbon dioxide, no vast piles of solid wastes, no great trainloads or pipelines of fucl, no destruction of vast areas of the landscape to get fuel.

I recently visited two ultra-modern electric plants, one coal-burning, one nuclear-for a look with my own eyes. The coal burner was Southern California Edison's new and awe-inspiring Mojave Station. The boiler is over 200 feet high, 100 by 150 feet at the base, with 3 million cubic feet of pipes, valves, turbines, pumps, heaters and water purification systems. Everywhere you look there are ladders and catwalks leading to massive machines whose purpose you can't even guess at.

The Mojave Station is the most modern coal boiler in the world, fed by a 273-mile-long pipe that brings half inch coal chunks in a slurry from strip mines on Black Mesa, N.M. Enormous static electric precipitators take 99% of the fly (Continued on page 54)

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#### By LEAVITT A. KNIGHT, Jr.

HEN PRESIDENT NIXON announced on the air at 10:30 p.m. (EDT) July 15, 1971, that he would visit Red China before May of 1972, the world's news media were "scooped" by the President, and so was your present author.

This article, in its first draft, had just been written. Now it needed some overhaul. Except for the astonishing fact that the President said that he, himself, would go to Red China, the article that we had just written predicted the rest—that is, that quite soon there would be serious, open discussions between the United States and Communist China for the first time in the history of Red China. The President, of course, beat us to press with *that* message, so it was back to the typewriter to bring our original article up to the pace of events.

It was last June that your author and your editor held a two-hour conversation about "ping pong diplomacy," now outdated by Mr. Nixon's later message. Our talk was along the following lines:

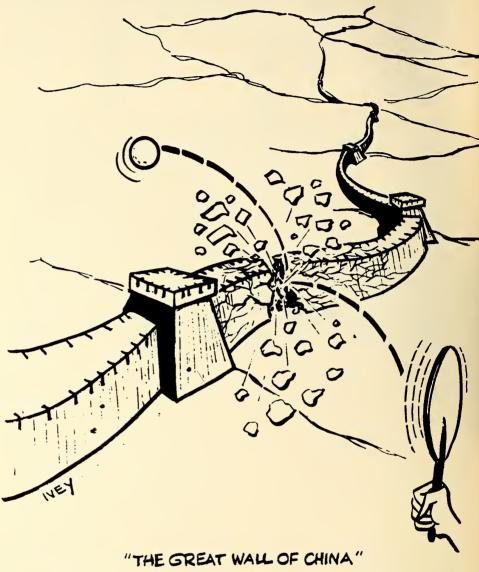
When Red China suddenly invited an American ping pong team to visit her premises last April, too much attention was paid to the trivia of the ping pong tour. The deeper meaning of the Rcd Chinese gesture was then pretty well lost sight of, we said. A review of press and TV coverage of the "ping pong diplomacy" showed that quite a few smaller American newspapers and not a few European media had explored its broader meaning. But the larger American media, with their need to be theatrical, had, we felt, then overemphasized the ping pong tour at the expense of the gut things behind it.

We were prepared to say that Red China would never have invited the ping pong tour if there were not already a secret understanding of further contacts between Red China and the American Administration. A probable agenda for talks already existed, we felt, and it was satisfactory to both sides in terms of the issues to be discussed. The ping pong incident was simply a public-opinion "softener" on both sides to reduce the "shock" of later open talks between two nations whose heads had never before talked openly and directly with one another.

To pay detailed attention to the dayby-day experiences of the ping pong players was, we said, just so much froth in terms of what the tour portended, while to credit the whole bizarre event to Red China without seeing that the U.S. was probably already involved was a good way to blind oneself to the actual meaning of the event.

So, we planned an article to try to get under the ping pong table, and had it all done on the very day that the President confirmed most of it.

## What's Behind



IVEY-ORLANDO SENTINAL-FLA

Political cartoonists had a field day when our ping pong team went to mainland China.

It didn't take much masterminding to write such a piece, only a look at everything instead of just trying to follow the ping pong ball.

President Nixon had already made many gestures toward opening up talks with Red China. With the ping pong thing, China was symbolically accepting his many earlier overtures.

Since both nations are deeply at odds on most long-range issues, what sort of agenda could they agree on, we asked ourselves in June. Probably issues of the moment for the most part, in which they might find mutual advantage in spite of the great gulf between them on all fundamental, long-range matters.

Red China wants us out of Vietnam. From the start of his term in office, President Nixon, in response to public clamor, had pledged himself to extricate this country from Vietnam in an "honorable way." No "honorable way" has appeared. Red China might be able to manage one. If she did, it would serve both her interests (to get us out) and our commitment (to get out gracefully).

The frightening expansion of Soviet military power has disturbed the leadership of Red China and the United States. A lessening of hostility between China and the United States would put them both in a stronger position vis-a-vis the growing Soviet might. The great growth of the military power of any one nation has always induced others—even enemies—to improve their relationships out of mutual security needs, even if only for the duration of the third power threat.

## Ping Pong Diplomacy?

An examination of the maneuvering and issues that led to President Nixon's planned visit to Red China, and what may happen there.

Red China has developed nuclear weapons. We have at least been able to talk with the Soviet Union about avoiding the use of these things. Whether conversations will *always* prevent their ultimate use, nobody knows. But Red China and the United States haven't even been able to talk about the matter, because



Friendly gathering in Japan, prior to China visit: U.S. table tennis member Olga Soltesz and one of Red China's champion players, Li Ching-kuang, flanked by Japanese ping pong hosts.

they haven't been talking. Since nobody who owns these weapons likes them any more than those who don't own them, both Red China and the United States could find a mutual interest in at least hopefully talking instead of heading down the BOOM trail in utter silence.

Plainly, even if talks get nowhere, there has long been a lot for Red China and the United States to try to talk about. As we saw the ping pong thing, Red China was saying "yes" for the first time to delicate overtures that had originated much earlier on President Nixon's part. Private talks somewhere, we said in June, already had the skids greased on both sides—or the ping pong invitation never would have been.

Mr. Nixon had been throwing out clues as long ago as 1966, when, despite his known policy of anti-communism, he went on record as being interested in establishing relations with Mao's government—probably on the same basis as we recognize the Soviet Union.

As a lawyer who'd just returned from a trip to Asia for a client in 1966, Mr.

Nixon wrote a piece for Foreign Affairs magazine which said, among other things: "Taking the long view we simply cannot afford to leave China forever outside the family of nations, there to nurture its fantasies, cherish its hates and threaten its neighbors. There is no place on this small planet for a billion of its potentially most able people to live in angry isolation."

In his 1968 campaign, the President enlarged on this theme.

Three weeks after his inauguration. he ordered a full-scale review of America's China policy. In June 1969, orders emanated from the White House to begin relaxing certain economic measures aimed against Peking. A month later. the President took steps to permit American tourists to bring \$100 worth of China-made goods into the United States.

Other moves and hints followed. In the fall of 1970, at a state dinner in Washington for Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, Mr. Nixon referred to mainland China for the first time by its self-styled name, the "People's Republic of China," instead of calling it "Red China" or "Communist China." This reference, a subtle sort of overture, did not attract much attention. But when the President repeated it in his State of the Union message this year, it made bold headlines. Now there are some indications that Romania acted as a middleman in negotiations to initiate open American talks with Red China. It is fair to guess that the President chose a Romanian social function at which to change his language about China to reassure Romania of his good faith in talks that Romania was helping to bring off.

Last March, U.S. passports were changed by striking from them the phrase "not valid for travel into or through mainland China."

Within a month of that American hint, the Chinese ping pong champion, Chuang Tse-tung, approached Glen Cowan of the U.S. team during the 31st world table tennis championships in Nagoya, Japan. Almost offhandedly, he asked if the American players would be interested in an all-expenses-paid tour of Communist China. The acceptance, and the ping pong tour itself, are history.

Naturally, the invitation came from the highest level. No Chinese ping pong player would make such an offer on his own. But the idea that China did this out of the blue, without a previous understanding with the American Administration, was unlikely. Putting bits together, it is striking that the change in U.S. passports had only just paved the way for such an invitation without an enormous amount of red tape. Even more compelling is the unlikelihood that



Nixon's announcement completely surprised the world press, most of which favored the move. Resultant editorial comments were laced with such superlatives as "astounding."

#### What's Behind Ping Pong Diplomacy?

the ping pong invitation would have been offered if it weren't understood that it would be okay at the highest level of U.S. policy making. Oriental face-saving instincts avoid extending invitations that might be refused.

So what the ping pong tour said from the start was, "The United States and Red China have privately agreed on direct discussions of their differences at an early date."

On the morning of July 15 our article, saying that, was finished. That night it was old hat.

The one great surprise was that President Nixon said that he would go personally to China. In the protocol among friendly nations nothing is more flattering, sincere or conciliatory than for the head of one nation to visit another. It is almost never done between hostile nations, both of whom are powerful. In such a case it is the ultimate gesture of sincerity and seriousness of purpose. When the visitor comes from the more powerful nation it is the most disarming gesture of all.

Mr. Nixon's neck is way out, and nobody need tell him so. He was Vice President when Khrushchev cancelled the Paris summit meeting with Eisenhower in a fit of pique, and he knows full well what the communists are capable of making of a friendly overture. It could happen again, and he knew it when he announced his intention to go. But plainly he doesn't think it will happen, and is willing to let Red China take the onus of a double-cross even if he has to take the embarrassment of it.

Since his announcement, the experts have, of course, been discussing what the American and Chinese leaders could talk about, what chance they have of agreeing on anything, and what effect that will have around the world. The greatest concentration of news media discussion has been about Taiwan, also known as Formosa and the Republic of China. Taiwan, under the aging, anti-red leader, Chiang Kai-shek, holds the Chinese seat in the United Nations, and the veto power in the Security Council that's reserved only for "great powers." Red China (everyone says) wants into the United Nations, wants the big power veto privilege, and wants Taiwan completely out of the UN. Further, it wants all United States military presence to be removed from the island of Taiwan.

Whether Red China actually wants into the UN is not certain. The question has been voted on in the UN year after year. Time and again, just before the vote, Red China has done or said something outrageously offensive to international accord. In the years that she has

been considered for UN admission she has invaded Korea in an act of war against the United Nations itself, invaded Tibet, made border war on India, committed genocide against her own and other people.

Her lack of scruples on behalf of UN principles is notorious. A U.S. Senate study attributes the death of between 34 million and 63 million people to the Red Chinese in the last 50 years. Her record with her own people and that of her neighbors is comparable to that of Hitler, though, as Senator Eastland has complained, U.S. newsmen who visit Red China paint her in rosier hues.

Red China may well prefer to have her exclusion from the UN as a point of international grievance to harp upon than to be let in. But unless she does something to outrage the entire UN by late fall, she can probably be voted in then. She can marshall a majority vote and the United States will no longer insist on a two-thirds vote—which is all

the assignment of the Chinese veto power. The important point here is that the United States has been losing its UN influence to require a two-thirds vote on these questions for some time. The UN is very close to deciding the matter wholly apart from the American position

Thus, the reality of the Red China-Taiwan question in the UN today hardly makes it an important matter for strictly U.S.-China discussion. And it is obviously not a matter of "mutual interest" between the two largely hostile nations. Thus, while the Chinese leaders will certainly want to talk about it at great length with Mr. Nixon (if it isn't already settled by then), it is not a central point around which the two nations agreed to talk. It is a peripheral issue that one of them will want to throw out in bargaining over whatever is closer to the actual business.

The same thing applies to the U.S presence on Taiwan. Taiwan is a sore point with Red China, whose leaders feel that Japan also has hopes of getting her back. The Red Chinese claim that we might pull out on terms that give



PEROTTI/BEN ROTH AGENCY

The Western world's rosy projections, as above, of Nixon-Mao meeting, overlook the thorns of Red China's continuing harsh tirades against "U.S. ruling circles."

that kept her from being voted in last year. Then we will see what the UN will do about Taiwan. If it keeps Taiwan, too, and Red China stays out in a pout, she will be staying out on her own and no longer able to say that she's "excluded." Further, the posture of the Nixon Administration is that the UN must decide itself what to do about the position of Taiwan in the UN, and about

Japan a foothold or protective power there. But it is not a point of mutual interest. It is, again, a point that China will harp on and make difficulties about. But Mr. Nixon didn't decide to go to China to discuss, centrally, either the UN or Taiwan. Instead, he risked getting into a hassle over them (including embarrassment with both Taiwan and Japan) as a price he might have to pay

for something else. And the Chinese knew this—for it is inconceivable that the central point or points of interest were not matters of *mutual* interest and were not agreed upon before talks were scheduled.

While the U.S. media have been speculating about how tough Red China is going to be about Taiwan and the UN once Mr. Nixon gets there, the Chinese leaders have been openly growling and snarling over the same questions.

They've been telling U.S. newsmen and visiting American leftists about the BEHRENDT—HET PAROOL, AMSTERDAM

they believe there are fish to fry with the American President.

As just one more "expert" in a sea of experts, this writer says that the biggest fish to fry is the Soviet Union, and that the other two issues that are more than "talking points" are Vietnam and possibly nuclear weapons. The chance of either side making concessions on anything else would depend on their making mutual progress on one or more of these three.

Though America is full of pundits who say the Cold War is over and the

speedily announced a mutual security treaty with India on China's southwest flank. In this country, some of those who remember the trust our leaders misplaced in Moscow in WW2 are scared to death that Mr. Nixon might negotiate another Yalta or Potsdam with Red China.

But no defense treaty or agreement of any sort is needed on either side to serve both American and Chinese interests vis-a-vis the swelling Soviet power monolith. It isn't conceivable that either American or Red Chinese leaders could live with their own people or their international friends if they tried to negotiate an outright mutual defense pact. But all they have to do in Peking is talk, and come away saying things like: "We discussed mutual problems and made some progress." Just that, and no more, would divest the Soviets of that part of their power balance advantage that now rests on a totally hostile relationship between the United States and Red China.

Both Mao (or Chou En-lai) and Nixon cannot avoid seeing great possibilities in their own Soviet dealings, once the Soviets have to scratch their heads about how far Red China and the United States might actually work together in the face of Soviet hostility to both of them. The Soviets see it just as clearly. They are no doubt painfully conscious of the fact that the U.S. might use better relationships with Red China (or even the joint pretense of better relationships) to wrest concessions from Moscow on Berlin, the Middle East and the strategic arms limitations talks.

Russia most certainly fears that U.S. influence might go up a peg among her East European allies, particularly among those who tend to play ball with Red China as a way to ease the uncomfortable grip of the Soviet vise on them. If it is true, as it seems, that Romania helped negotiate the Nixon-China talks, then the satellites already have a joyful hand in this embarrassment to the Soviets.

Inside the Soviet Union there are two camps—the arms mongers, and those who long for more civilian goods. The balance of Soviet internal political power is only narrowly held by the champions of might, while the popular sentiment for a better life at the expense of all those weapons is strong.

Red China and the United States will unsettle this internal Soviet struggle—one way or the other—by adopting a posture that they might be less hostile to each other. There's a risk that the Soviet arms boys might get even stronger by claiming that China and America are ganging up against the Russians. The very fact that both China and the U.S. Administration are willing to take this risk is testimony to how seriously they view the fact that the Soviet arms build-



Dutch cartoon depicting world leaders in order around inscrutable Mao moon: Nixon, Tito (Yugoslavia), Pompidou (France), a glowering Brezhnev (Russia), Heath (England).

demands they will make respecting Taiwan and the UN, and about how they won't budge an inch in any direction that would betray Hanoi in the Vietnam struggle.

The way they've talked, Mr. Nixon is coming on bended knee and will have a tough time with them.

This could be their actual posture, but probably not. Communists have always talked toughest just before they took the field to play a little ball. Big talk and the making of rigid demands is a familiar prelude to bargaining even among many non-communists—like labor and management here. Advance bluster makes a small later concession seem like generosity and sacrifice.

It is the Chinese who have accepted hints cast to the winds by Mr. Nixon since 1966. They know that Mr. Nixon isn't coming on bended knee, and regardless of noises now and in the future,

Soviet Union is an imaginary enemy, realistic leaders in both Red China and the United States recognize that the huge growth of Soviet armaments has upset the power balance of the world.

The Soviets have beefed up their muscle so much on land and sea and in the air and space that they are assuming the same threatening posture to the whole world—including both the United States and Red China—that Hitler presented in the 1930's. As this writer sees it, the Nixon-China talks are as momentous a statement of the world power balance gone awry as was our alliance with the Soviet Union against Hitler in WW2. On their part, the Soviets see it that way too, and have angrily branded the Nixon visit as a blow against them since the day he announced it.

The Soviets make out that Nixon and Mao are about to form an actual power alliance against Moscow, and Russia

#### What's Behind Ping Pong Diplomacy?

up has made a new ball game of the balance of power around the globe. It is a pity that so many of our commentators want to talk so much about Taiwan when Americans need a better consciousness of a much bigger matter—what's happening to the safety of the world.

The American effort has been to get Taiwan's United Nations status (and Red China's) entirely outside the sphere of Mr. Nixon's talks in Peking and leave it in the UN. Secretary of State Rogers, in midsummer, spelled out steps the U.S. would take to drop the ball in the UN's lap and let it face up to all the complications involved.

The UN, to date, has comfortably been able to attribute its exclusion of Red China to American influence. It is a simple matter for the UN to vote Red China in or out. But if it wants to vote her in-in a climate in which the whole UN is taking the responsibility—the UN delegates also will have to wrestle with whether or not they will kick Taiwan out, and whether or not they'll give Red China the veto. The U.S. can vote "no" on all of these—and lose. But it is going to be very interesting to see what UN delegates do when and if they have to handle the whole problem without passing the buck to the United States. which is just about where Rogers' statement has put them.

As I look at my own tea leaves, I say that Red China may say all kinds of things to Mr. Nixon about Taiwan, but she will part with a handshake because the whole effect on the Soviet Union will be wrecked if the meeting doesn't end with a handshake. There may be very angry talk to Mr. Nixon in Peking about the U.S. presence on Taiwan, but the final statement will be that they "discussed difficult problems which need further talk, and we look forward to more explorations." My tea leaves say this because my tea leaves say that the Soviet danger is the central question that brought the two hostile nations together, and neither side wants to gum that one

Mr. Nixon told the American Society of Newspaper Editors that it was "premature to talk of U.S. recognition of Red China or UN membership for Peking," and that "each step must be taken one at a time." In his original announcement he warned the press not to "speculate." He said nothing would come of the talks "at the expense of old friends"—which includes a very worried Taiwan and Japan. He said the aim was to "seek normalization of relations" (seek, mind you, not get) and to "exchange views on questions of concern to both sides."

These are all warnings to speculators like me (with China tuned in) that nothing momentous at all in terms of any sort of agreement on anything may result. Nothing except that the talks themselves unsettled the Soviet Union and Hanoi immediately.

They will most certainly *talk* about nuclear weapons when Mr. Nixon sits down in Peking, and almost as certainly there will be no sort of decision about nuclear weapons except perhaps to talk further sometime.

My crystal ball keeps telling me that both sides will try to find a way to get the U.S. out of Vietnam in a more graceful way than via an amphibious armed retreat from the beachheads with an inrush of North Vietnamese upon Saigon with their hatchets out. They will try for a smooth way out of Vietnam, but neither side is certain they'll succeed. They will both want to find it. If they succeed, Mr. Nixon will have a bombshell to unload on his critics at home, while actual success in doing something together will have the most sobering effect on the Soviets. A graceful Vietnam settlement is one thing they'll seek earnestly, according to the radar on my

In fact, it is extremely important to China to manage the Vietnam settlement on the red side if she can. Giving her a chance to do it is actually an ace in Mr. Nixon's hand. Because of the course of events. it's now in the cards that we will

be out of Vietnam and there is rivalry between the Soviet Union and Red China to decide who will then be the major power with the most influence there. As this is China's backyard, permanent Soviet influence in Vietnam would be a Chinese disaster.

Yet, just before the ping pong thing, Hanoi openly defied her big neighbor when she sent some of her top leaders to the Soviet Communist Party congress in Moscow. Peking newspapers at that time called on North Vietnam to choose between the Chinese or the Soviet brand of communism. Hanoi gets half a billion dollars a year in arms and supplies from Moscow, and much less from China.

What we are going to be able to salvage for South Vietnam nobody knows, but this question on the red side even goes to who is going to be permanent Daddy to North Vietnam. I can't even pretend to see just how the Soviet and Chinese ploys there will shape up. But you can see that if the Red Chinese could devise some advantageous role as a negotiator with Mr. Nixon on Vietnam, it would be perhaps more vital to them than to him.

Poor Vietnam may yet be a Soviet-Chinese battleground when we have finally washed our hands of her. Trouble is, China may have her hands full being the arranger. The North Vietnamese hate China so much that long ago, before the North-South war in Vietnam, old Ho Chi Minh sought aid from the U.S. for North Vietnam rather than from "that excrement" to the north (Red China).



Brezhnev: "Nixon says his friends don't have to worry. Are we his friends, Kosygin?"

Where all of we prophets of the Nixon talks stand in danger of having our tea leaves messed up is that something may arise to queer the best laid plans. The Chinese are to be trusted only as long as their interests, as they see them, are being served. Any event that makes them take a second look at their interests can push the whole show off the stage.

The Soviets are probably working with might and main to wreck the talks, or see to it that they end in nastiness. They may give the Chinese either enough trouble, or enough complications, or enough satisfaction to make them decide the hell with it.

The Chinese may even make such adamant demands on Mr. Nixon that they'll overstep the bounds on which the talks could end in a handshake. But this is unlikely unless they actually change their minds in advance, as Khrushchev did with Eisenhower in Paris as he



Optimism prevails on prospects of Red China trade, but some question advantage to us.

screamed about our U2 spy planes. He'd known about the U2's all along.

If the Chinese decide that scheduling the U.S. talks rather than holding them in good faith was all they needed to play Mr. Nixon against the Soviets, they are capable of pulling the rug out like Khrushchev did in Paris. In Western terms, they can be trusted just as far as you can spit.

Mr. Nixon knows all this, so he's playing a dangerous game with his eyes open. I'd say it is preposterous to think that Mr. Nixon would sell out Taiwan or Japanese interests when he goes to Peking, and the Chinese don't expect him to. They only expect him to listen to their gripes so they can have them on the record. They know that the President would be in deep trouble at home if he compromised Taiwan's security, since many Americans who voted for him wouldn't stand for it—and he promised he'd compromise no friends

when he said he was going to Peking. To that end, Mr. Nixon made his concessions to China in advance—five measures of relaxation of American policy toward Red China. As announced earlier this year, they were:

- Relaxation of the 20-year-old embargo on U.S. trade with China.
- A pledge to "expedite" visas for any Chinese citizen wishing to visit the U.S.
- A relaxation of U.S. currency controls to permit China to pay for imports with dollars. American citizens would also be permitted to send checks to China without first obtaining Treasury permission.
- Permission for U.S. oil companies to sell fuel to ships or planes bound to or from China, except for Chinese craft heading to or from North Vietnam, North Korea or Cuba.
- Authorization for U.S. ships or planes to carry Chinese cargoes between non-Chinese ports and for American-owned carriers that operate under foreign flags to visit China itself.

These will do as a foundation for polite talks, if I am right that the Soviet danger is the key mutual interest, with a Chinese shot at a Vietnam settlement in second place. China's strength was sapped by the blood-letting and destruction during the Red Guard purges of recent years, at the same time that the Soviet Union posed her a growing foreign peril. Historically, China knows, the Russians have made no distinctions between the peoples of the East. Whether Uzbek or Chinese, she held them in contempt and distrust. Even today, the average Russian doesn't differentiate between the Mongols who ravaged his land 600 years ago and the Chinese masses he believes stand ready to attack his soil. (And maybe he's not so far wrong.)

My radar does not extend years ahead, beyond Mr. Nixon's announced first talk. There is a power settlement coming in Asia as a result of many things: our Vietnam pullout is one; the regrowth of Japan as a major power center is another; the tenuous permanent status of Taiwan is another; the wreckage of communism in Indonesia is another; the establishment of Red China as a solid power is another; the Soviet-Chinese split is another; the unsettled Korean border is another; the new Soviet-India treaty is another. Strength has shifted about among good guys and bad guys. Unsettled issues lie all over the map of Asia, while the Soviet military shadow hangs over the world. There's a lot to talk about, if you don't let vour guard down.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article went to press before The American Legion's National Convention in Houston, Tex.—for which late space was reserved starting on p. 28.

The Legion has been concerned, as have many others, lest talks with Red China jeopardize American interests and those to whom we have given pledges of support who live in the shadow of Red China. Though we don't have it at this writing (magazines are normally made up in parts) a report on the Legion Convention expression regarding Red China will most certainly be found in the 16 pages starting on p. 28.

Numerous resolutions on the subject from Kentucky, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and other states were placed on the Convention agenda by midsummer.

Over the years the Legion has opposed recognition of Red China by the U.S.; the Legion has opposed Red Chinese admission to the UN; it has taken a dim view of U.S. trade with Red China while she fomented revolution here and else-



"Right bait for the right fish?"

where, committed genocide at home and in Tibet and supported military operations against free nations with the materials available to her; and the Legion has supported Taiwan's independence and her UN seat.

The new situation presents a mixed bag. On July 16, Nat'l Legion Commander Alfred P. Chamie declined to pre-judge what Mr. Nixon was getting at. He noted that the President said he was going to China "in the overriding interest of peace, but not at the expense of old friends." Taking the President at his word, Commander Chamie agreed with our author, above, that the President was "not going to sacrifice . . . our traditional friendship ... with Taiwan." A memo from the Legion's National Security-Foreign Relations staff, analyzing the situation, anticipated a "divergence of opinion [at Houston] on the appropriate course we should take over the next Legion year on China." Whatever shape Legion policy may take we will report in the Legion Convention coverage starting on p. 28.



Opposing Views by Congressmen on The Question . . .

## **SHOULD CONGRESS BAN**

NE OF THE most serious problems confronting the American people is the great tide of pornography which engulfs the nation. Open sewers of filth flow unabated throughout our land. This massive attack on religious and moral standards has a critical impact on our young people.

In my judgment, the proliferation of obscene and pornographic material is closely related to many other of our crucial problems. When our youth have been taught that our moral, religious and ethical standards are to be totally disregarded in the area of pornography, then we certainly should not be surprised that a minority of them engage in such acts as burning draft cards and American flags, using heroin and other narcotics, and committing violent attacks on the persons and property of others.

Moral and spiritual chaos inevitably results in social and political chaos, which is, of course, the primary objective of communists and other revolutionaries. It is no accident that some leaders of the New Left and other political radicals publicly use obscenity and employ pornography at every opportunity.

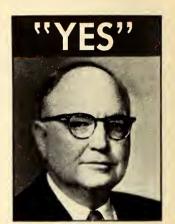
In short, this flood of pornography poses a real threat to our social and political structure.

This horrible situation is caused largely by judges, who, for various reasons, decide that the rights of the smut peddlers should always be superior to those of the American people.

Congress has a duty to the American people to stem this flood of pornography. I am a cosponsor of two Senate bills proposed by the President which would help to clean up our moral pollution.

On July 7, the House of Representatives took a step in the right direction by passing H.R. 8805. This bill would prohibit the mailing of obscene material to minors and would provide mail patrons with a means not to receive unsolicited, potentially offensive sexual material.

Most of the opponents of efforts to curb the obscene bombardment of children with pornographic material contend that pornography does not harm children. We know better.



Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.)

Ask a parent whose 12-year-old child has just received such material in the mail.

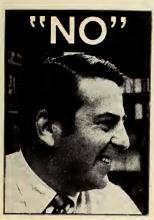
An article appearing in the July 1971 issue of Reader's Digest, entitled "What Sex Offenders Say about Pornography," tells of personal interviews with more than 70 offenders in Wisconsin and California. About half of the offenders interviewed stated that the availability of pornographic materials was directly related to their commission of sex crimes.

If you are concerned about this terrible problem, write your United States Senators and urge that they support H.R. 8805.

James D. Eastland

If you wish to let your Congressman or one of your Senators know how you feel on this

## "OBSCENITY" FROM THE MAIL?



Rep. Abner J. Mikva (D-III.)

HERE IS NOT a cause or issue in this country more popular than fighting obscenity. It is something that stings the emotions and stirs people to write their congressman. For most people, it is difficult to understand why anyone would vote against legislation aimed at keeping "obscene" matter out of the mails. In July, about 50 of my colleagues in the

House joined me in opposing such a bill. That does not make us advocates of pornography.

It was not so much the legislation itself that we opposed, but rather the attitude that it represented:

That Congress could be a national super-parent . .

That Congress could impose its own standards of morality and obscenity, ignoring the Supreme Court...

That Congress could suppress free expression, arbitrarily deciding who can use the mails.

The first part of the bill establishes a new category of material that cannot be mailed either directly to young people under 17 or to their homes. With this, Congress is telling parents how to raise their children.

The language used to describe what is "harmful to minors" is vague and unconstitutional. Something "patently offensive" to one person may be interesting to another. Sex edition in one parent-child relationship may be smut in another. Congress has no business passing a law deciding which is right. For one, I am more concerned with what my three daughters do not read than with what they do read.

issue, fill out the "ballot" and mail it to him. I

The second part of the bill substantially broadens the definition of what is obscene and unmailable. In the process, the First Amendment is trampled. Again, the language is vague, making no distinction for material that has social importance, a distinction specifically made by the Supreme Court. Censorship never has appealed to Americans, and it should not now, disguised as anti-pornography legislation.

In its third section, the bill gives the Post Office the responsibility for keeping "potentially offensive" mail out of our hands. Of course, Congress is deciding what is "potentially offensive." The purpose is to protect the right of a person not to receive unwanted mail. In the process, the right of free expression, the mailer's right, is strangled. There is already on the books legislation that protects both rights. Material can be mailed, and if the recipient finds it offensive "in his own judgment," he can ask the Post Office to make sure he does not get it again.

There is one other reason for opposing this kind of anti-obscenity legislation. The criminal law is not the way to protect people from themselves—or to tell parents how to raise their children.

One final irony: the language of the bill violates the very standards it establishes. I could not legally send a copy of it through the mails.

You can address any Representative c/o U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515; any Senator c/o U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

# Our Most Underrated President: JAMES K. POLK

His impact on the nation in one term was enormous, but he is largely forgotten by all but scholars.

#### By PEGGY ROBBINS

THE MEMORY OF small, slight, sickly James Knox Polk, 11th President of the United States (1845-49), deserves a better shake than we have given it.

Anyone who lives in the West (or west of the Sabine on the Louisiana-Texas border), lives in the United States because of James K. Polk. He brought under the American flag one-third or more of the area of the original 48 states—and in Polk's time it seemed likely that much of this area might be permanently dominated or governed by Mexico, Russia and Great Britain.

It is strange that the President who brought this vast area into the United States should be little remembered today by all but scholars (who have long been fascinated with Polk and his remarkable term in office).

Polk's grave is a rather inconspicuous looking affair that occupies a small and sometimes dusty spot on a hill in Nashville, which is more grandly occupied by the Tennessee state capitol buildings.

Yet Polk's unassuming grave is more noticeable than the spot he fills in the memory of his countrymen. A Cornell historian, Prof. Clinton Rossiter, observed in 1956 that Polk was the one "bright spot" in a "void" of "illustrious Presidents" who served between Jackson and Lincoln, from 1837 to 1861. Prof. Rossiter then judged the Presidents solely by their record while in the Whi'e House. Most of the eight Presidents who served in this period, including Polk, are hardly remembered by most Americans today unless they want to be able to say they can name all the Presidents.

Those who filled the "void" were, in order: Martin Van Buren (Democrat), W. H. Harrison (Whig), John Tyler (Whig), James K. Polk (Democrat), Zachary Taylor (Whig), Millard Fillmore (Whig), Franklin Pierce (Democrat) and James Buchanan (Democrat). Tyler and Fillmore were Vice Presidents who took office on the deaths of W. H. Harrison and Zachary Taylor.

It is no accident that most of these

men were not "illustrious." It is more remarkable that Polk actually was. The times did not really permit an "illustrious President." A non-scholar who will read of those days in all their detail (as scholars do with fascination) will find them an illuminating and painful period of our history—a time of national crisis in which (somewhat like the present) passion and controversy made it almost impossible for a President to shine.

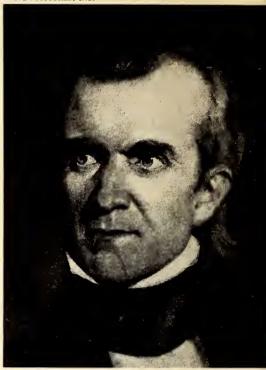
The politics of those days are as vague to most of us as are the men who then led our country. But they can be outlined broadly and briefly if we avoid get-



Anti-Polk cartoon: his fame, his critics said, was built on unpopular issues, shown here as a shaky house of cards.

ting bogged down in the detail of the great confusion which then ruled the nation. Let's try.

The present Democratic Party begins with Andrew Jackson, who served two terms between 1829 and 1837. Jackson was immensely popular with the "masses," and detested by the well-to-do



James Knox Polk-1795-1849.

industrial and banking interests. He managed to be succeeded in the 1836 elections by his right-hand man, Martin Van Buren, of New York.

Jackson's Democrats so shook up the political picture of the nation that the older parties vanished. A new alignment of Jackson-haters arose, calling themselves Whigs. During most of the "void" period, the Democrats and Whigs were the two major parties.

Van Buren served one term. He was then defeated in 1840 by the Whigs' Gen. W. H. Harrison, while Polk came out of nowhere four years later to regain the White House for the Democrats. Van Buren lost out in several later tries at reelection. He continued to be the most powerful active Democrat, but no one man thereafter ruled the party, as it split into many factions. Jackson, in retirement, continued until his death during Polk's term to be the most influential Democrat.

Polk, a Jackson and Van Buren Democrat, emerged as the first dark horse in our history in the tumultuous Democratic convention of 1844 in Baltimore, when, after seven ballots, it was impossible to nominate Van Buren or any of a host of ambitious rivals. In an astonishing national election, marked by unbelievable intrigue, the "unknown" Polk defeated high-riding Henry Clay, the Whig candidate.

Whigs and Democrats continued to vie. But in the 1850's the Whigs destroyed themselves in ill-judged attempts to please everybody—North and South, farm and factory. Nobody could please everybody during those fateful years that

led to the Civil War. It was the bane of all the Presidents in the "void" that no matter what position they took on anything, the question of slavery would be injected into it. Almost every choice they had to make involved either civil war or a North-South compromise that made one side or both furious.

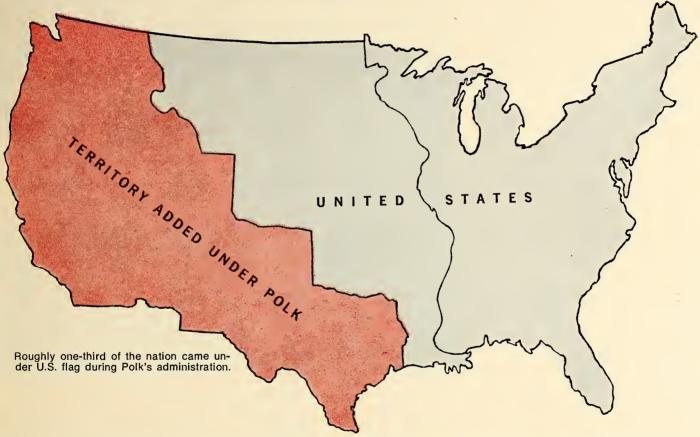
An "illustrious President" was almost impossible unless he should accept the final showdown that they all tried to avoid. The art of governing the United States between 1837 and 1861 was the art of compromising the uncompromisable. Polk was outstanding during this period not only for his artful manage-

ance the "slavery mischief" of annexing Texas by seeing to it that not only the Northwest but California, too, should be absorbed. "Texas, Oregon and California" as then used, meant also the entire West: present-day Washington, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Arizona, New Mexico—everything west of Jefferson's old Louisiana Purchase and everything in doubt on the western side of the Louisiana Purchase.

The other Presidents in the "void" were essentially engaged in trying to avoid the issues that were leading to civil war, and seeking hopelessly to balance factions that were ready to battle

fice in their forties. He was President in his own right, making his own decisions when almost no man could do that, and he was President by accident to boot. Historians who like to second-guess all of the "void" Presidents castigate many of the others for their weakness and Polk for his willful strength.

Polk was born on a farm in Mecklenburg County, N.C., on Nov. 2, 1795. the first of ten children of Samuel and Jane Knox Polk. He was a small, frail, shy child among more rugged neighbors and playmates—often ill and devotedly nursed by his mother. In his childhood he was marked by a religious controversy



ment of irreconcilable forces, but as the sole occupant of the White House between Jackson and Lincoln who found national objectives on which he could, and did, move forward. He fixed his star on national expansion, and in one term achieved all he set out to do. He brought under the American flag all of the present West in three packages called Texas, Oregon and California.

The eyes of the whole nation were set on annexing Texas when Polk ran for office. He was committed to annexing Texas by Congress by the time he was inaugurated (and he was elected because he supported it, while Van Buren lost the nomination and Clay the election because they opposed taking in Texas).

But Texas, too, was wrapped up in the slavery question. Polk kept it to himself, until he was in office, that he would bal-

cach other. Not one of them served two terms, since whatever they did enraged someone. Small wonder that, except for Polk, do-nothing and fence-straddle were often the most essential businesses of this succession of Presidents. When the Whigs even failed at fence-straddling, their pieces were picked up by a new party (the present Republicans). Its first President was Abraham Lincoln, who came into office just in time to face the final showdown.

That James Polk should have been able to turn the country aside from its internal hatreds during these hectic years, to expand it from the Sabine and the great plains to the Pacific, is only one of the many remarkable things about this small, self-contained, toiling, astute politician. He was then our youngest President, the first of seven who took of-

stirred up by his grandfather. Col. Ezekiel Polk. The old man accused the local Presbyterian minister, and his church in general, of trying to run all the affairs of the community and its people. This got the Polks involved in charges of "heresy" and "treason" among their neighbors. A quarrel interrupted the future President's baptism, and the minister sent the infant home unbaptized. Polk's parents would as soon have let the matter rest, but the old grandfather went to his grave railing at church meddling in lay affairs and local government. As for James K. Polk. not until shortly before his death would he agree to be baptized.

In 1806, some weeks before James was 11, his family resettled with others in the fertile wilderness of the Duck River Valley in Tennessec. North Caro-

#### CONTINUED Our Most Underrated President: JAMES K. POLK

lina quarrels were left behind, and the settlers turned the new country into a center of civilization. James's health improved so that he helped on the farm and even accompanied his father on surveying trips. He liked the mapping and the figuring of the surveying business, though each trip left him exhausted.

The boy had not been strong enough for regular attendance at school, but he'd learned to read and write. After the move to Tennessee he read and reread his father's and his grandfather's books.

In 1812, James—now 16—came down with a gallstone and was near death. His father took him 230 miles on horseback to kindly, bluff Dr. Ephriam McDowell in Danville, Ky. McDowell operated with no more anesthetic than a couple of noggins of brandy, and said afterward that the emaciated boy had "extraordinary bravery and remarkable inner toughness for one so physically weak."

James Polk rode home in the saddle with his gallstone in his pocket and a wound on his belly, confident that though he wasn't physically rugged, he'd discovered the power of character and courage. He never forgot.

Back home, James set his mind on becoming a doctor or a lawyer. But his parents feared he'd wear himself out at college. His father got him a position, instead, in the general store in Columbia, Tenn.

In April 1813, Andrew Jackson (not yet the hero of the Battle of New Orlcans) came to Columbia and was a dinner guest in the Polk home. That night, after a long conversation with Jackson, James Knox Polk knew what he *really* wanted to be. It was a leader. Sam Polk tried no further to steer his son's life course, and Jackson was James' idol for life.

Young Polk went to school. He sailed through two academies so fast that in two years he entered the University of North Carolina, where he graduated after three years with honors in mathematics and the classics. He was a sort of "loner" who studied hard and ignored social life. Idle pleasure was not for him, either then or later on in the White House. But he made valuable, lifelong friends of other serious, politicallyminded classmates.

Early in 1819, he joined the law office of Judge Felix Grundy in Nashville. A close friendship developed between the two that lasted until Grundy's death in 1840. Grundy was a power in Tennessee politics and a former United States Congressman. He was elected in August 1819, to the Tennessee State Senate, where he managed to make James Polk a Senate clerk.

Polk was admitted to the bar late in

1820. He started a law practice in his home county of Maury, with an office in Columbia, the county seat. By then, father Sam Polk and his son-in-law, James Walker, were partners in many enterprises in Columbia. They owned the town's biggest store, traded in cotton and tobacco, and had government contracts to provision the Indians and carry mail. Walker owned the town's newspaper and was president of the bank, while Sam Polk was a bank director. They were planning a company to build roads, and another to operate steamboats. Sam was continuing to buy and sell land by the thousands of acres. It was through land sales that the family's fortunes had first started soaring.

J. K. Polk, Attorney-at-Law, with his talents and spotless reputation, was just the lawyer for this family complex. He had grown into a rather handsome young man with black hair and large steel-gray eyes. His thin sensitive mouth and sharply molded face all blended into a personable whole that included innate courtesy and quiet good manners. In less than three years he was earning more money than he'd thought possible, and his attention was turning to politics. Young Polk wisely continued as a Senate clerk, though it meant refusing private practice while the Legislature was in session. He came to know all the state's leading men and the aims and strategies of all political factions.

In 1822, James began calling on 20-year-old Sarah Childress, of Murfreesboro. There is no reason to think his choice did not come from heart, but he could not have made a better one for his political future. Her family was prominent and Sarah was interested in public life. She had been quite well educated, at a time when most girls weren't. She was nearer handsome than really pretty, but by all accounts she had good sense and personal charm. She told James Knox Polk, a shy, hesitant suitor, that she thought of him as a "banked fire."

In 1823, the pair decided that marriage should wait until after the coming election, in which James was a candidate for a seat in the Tennessee House of Representatives. "Sarah wouldn't have married me," he said many years later, "if I'd been satisfied with a clerkship."

Polk won the election, took his oath as a state Representative in September 1823, and he and Sarah were married in the Childress home in Murfreesboro on Jan. 1, 1824. Thanks to Sarah's widowed mother, it was an uncomfortably lavish production to the young man who, years later, liked being referred to as "our unpretentious frontier President." Among the many guests was Andrew

Jackson Donelson, General Jackson's wife's nephew, whom Jackson had adopted.

Best man was Aaron Brown, a young lawyer and State Senator from nearby Giles County. Polk and Brown had formed a partnership, drawing clients from both counties. Brown, later United States Senator and governor of Tennessee, supported all James Polk's political ambitions. He and Donelson helped put their friend in the White House and served him as President.

Because Polk was a member of one wealthy family marrying into another, many assumed he'd be anti-Jackson. Polk quickly made it plain he was an undeviating Jacksonian Democrat.

In the state Legislature he established a reputation for firmness, industry and shrewdness in debate. In August 1824, with the support of Jackson and Grundy, Polk announced that he'd run for Congress from Tennessee's 6th Congressional District. It was a year before that election, so Polk at first worked harder to make Andrew Jackson President than in his own behalf.

In 1824, none of the four Presidential candidates—Jackson, John Quincy Adams, William Crawford and Henry Clay—won a majority of the electoral votes. Jackson led with 99 to Adams' second place 84. The election was thrown into the House. Clay, the candidate with the lowest vote, was eliminated—but he used his influence as Speaker of the House to get Adams elected by one vote. President Adams promptly made Clay Secretary of State.

And the citizens thereof.

In witness whereof I have hereunts let my hand, and caused the lead of the United others to be affixed.

None at the bity of Machington this fourth day of her, one thousand eight hundred and forty.

And forty. Hird.

Sy the Freident.

Samus Stuchan and berefer, of Nate.

The final page of the treaty with Mexico which brought the Southwest into the Union.



Oregon settlers in 1843 voting their choice to join the U.S. A few years later, Polk settled the issue with Britain after tumultuous negotiation.

Polk took to his own Tennessee campaign trail to assail that "corrupt bargain," attacking Adams and Clay so vigorously that the small, serious candidate picked up the local nickname "Napoleon of the Stump." Clay, he said, had never hesitated to attack Adams in the past. But Clay saw that, as Secretary of State, he might pave the way to the Presidency for himself, so he made a deal with Adams against Jackson, "the people's clear choice."

"But the people are on to these tricks and will have no more of them. Four years from now," cried Polk, "it will be Andrew Jackson... who will be in the Executive Mansion." What nobody foresaw was that 20 years later a nationally "unknown" Polk would himself defeat Clay in Clay's greatest bid for the White House.

James Polk won his race for Congress in August 1825. He spent 14 years in

the House, the last four as Speaker. During the whole of Andrew Jackson's two-term administration Representative Polk was one of its leading supporters, and several times its key man on important issues. In 1833, as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Polk initiated and assumed direction in the House of President Jackson's assault on the Bank of the United States. It was Polk's strategy by which Jackson "dealt the bank monster a mortal blow."

As Speaker of the House, Polk was repeatedly called upon to decide points in which the slavery question was involved. A slave owner himself, but no passionate slavery advocate, Polk repeatedly complained that Americans on both sides of the issue injected slavery into every political question. He apparently believed—as many did—that it was a problem which, if just left alone, would solve itself. Later, as President, he set

his eyes on national expansion, with a "plague on both their houses" view of pro- and anti-slavery agitators.

Polk owned a slave named Harry, whom he hired out as a blacksmith in Mississippi. Harry always bet on Polk to win elections, and in the early 1840's Polk and Harry had been losing elections and bets. When Polk won the Presidency in 1844, Harry wrote him: "I have been betting and [losing] on you for several years but I have made it all up now...I am in hopes that you will come to this State before you go to the white house & let me see you once more before I die."

Even South Carolina's John C. Calhoun, the most dedicated spokesman for slavery interests, once said that slavery was "like the scaffolding of a building." When it had served its purpose, it would be systematically taken down. Calhoun was Vice President under Adams and again under Jackson until he broke with the Jacksonites in 1832, resigned the Vice Presidency, and was elected to the Senate. Polk and Calhoun were friendly at first but disagreed on vital issues and were finally the bitterest of enemies.

As Speaker of the House, Polk designed the "gag rule" on anti-slavery petitions, which accepted them all and buried them in a committee. Polk's interest was to get on with other business. Congress had no power to abolish slavery in any state, but the abolitionists were willing to debate the subject on the floor forever. The anti-slavery people were furious at bottling up the petitions, the slavery people were furious that they would even be accepted. Calhoun assailed the mere acceptance of the petitions with blazing fury, but Polk wouldn't budge. No earlier Speaker was abused so much on all sides, but Polk met challenges to duels with silent contempt.

Polk considered himself responsible for his party in Tennessee. When the Whigs, under Clay's national leadership, rose in power in Tennessee, Polk dutifully left the highest post in the House in 1839 to run for governor back home and reestablish his party. He exhausted himself assailing the Whigs as "aristocrats," who believed "only in government for the wealthy by the wealthy! I believe in democracy!" He was elected governor, but fought a losing battle to strengthen his party against the national upsurge of the Whigs. Borrowing Jackson's own strategy, the Whigs ran an old military hero for President and claimed they represented the masses.

In the "log cabin and apple cider" campaign of 1840, the Whigs' 68-year-old Gen. William Henry Harrison, "the hero" of the Indian battle of Tippecanoe.

(Continued on page 44)



▲ Downtown Houston

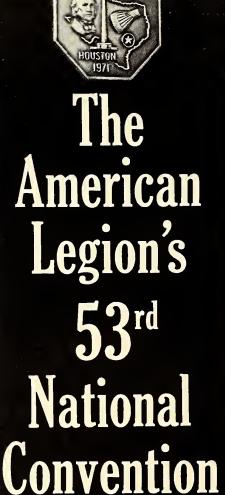
THE 53RD ANNUAL National Convention of The American Legion met in the sweltering outdoors and air-conditioned indoors of Houston, Texas, from Friday, August 27 to Thursday, Sept. 2, 1971. There were 3,080 delegates from the 58 Legion departments, which include the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and six foreign lands.

It was the first Legion nat'l convention in Houston and the third in Texas since 1919.

The convention, in one of its closing orders of business on Sept. 2, unanimously elected John H. Geiger, of Illinois, to be National Commander for the Legion year 1971-72. Geiger is a WW2 Battle of the Bulge veteran of Patton's Third Army and a United Airlines architectural engineer—a vice-presidential assistant in the planning, building and maintenance of United Airlines airport ground facilities.

A full-length biography of Nat'l Commander Geiger will appear on these pages next month, and a story on the election appears here on page 42.

The convention increased nat'l American Legion dues, as was expected, from \$2.00 annually to \$2.50—with the proviso that all nat'l 1972 dues paid on or before Dec. 31, 1971, would remain at \$2.00. The \$2.50 rate also applies to all dues received at nat'l hq from departments on or later than Jan. 15, 1972. Actual dues that members will pay also



A REPORT FROM HOUSTON, TEXAS



▲ NASA's Spacecraft Center

include their post and department dues—so they will vary in total from post to post.

In addition to the 3.080 delegates the convention was also attended by numerous alternates, members of standing committees and commissions, many Legionnaires present on their own and—in thousands of cases—their wives and/or children. Some 13,000 registered.

They didn't do too much outdoors, due to the hot and humid climate, nor did they have to. But throughout the convention a steady stream of Legionnaires poured over the 20-odd miles southeast to visit NASA's manned spacecraft center at Clear Lake, which was by all odds the best attended local sight.

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Residents of Houston missed almost entirely the great spectacle that the Legion put on in the comfort of the Astrodome on Sunday night, Aug. 29. There, nine Junior and three Senior Drum and Bugle Corps (survivors of earlier trials) fought it out for their respective national championships. Though spectators were guaranteed almost perfect conditions, more Miamians have stuck through this rousing contest in the rain than the number of local people who were in the Astrodome for it this year. Except for Las Vegas, which lacks the population, the local people have never been more conspicuous by their absence. But some 10,-000 or so members of Legion families who knew what a pageant it is-were on



A view on the convention floor as Secretary of State William P. Rogers spoke.

hand to see the Yankee Rebels, of Post 20, Baltimore, Md., keep their national senior title, scoring 83.35 points to turn back the 81.20 challenge of the Caballeros, of Post 199, Hawthorne, N.J.

They also saw the Argonne Rebels, of Post 180, Great Bend, Kans., run away with the Junior title, outscoring the second place Cavaliers, of Post 985, Chicago, Ill., by 83.00 to 78.95.

As noted on page 21 of this issue, there was a pre-convention "divergence of views" on what stance the Legion should take with respect to President Nixon's new relationship with Red China.

The convention ultimately adopted two resolutions under Foreign Relations with respect to China, but only after considerable floor debate and the removal of two clauses from one of them. Both stricken clauses dealt with events that might happen but have not happened, regarding U.S. trade with Red China and the possible admission of Red China to the UN whether we like it or not.

In the China resolutions that were adopted, the convention reaffirmed existing Legion policies opposing diplomatic recognition of Red China and her admission to the UN, and supporting the present U.S. stance on Taiwan. It further supported the President's peace-keeping aims in opening discussions with Red China, under the terms that he originally stated that no harm would befall any of our friends as a result of the talks.

A host of distinguished speakers addressed the convention. Among them:

Sec'y of State William P. Rogers; Ambassador of the Republic of China James C. H. Shen; Israeli Minister of Transpor-

tation and Commerce Shimon Peres; Gen. A. J. Goodpaster, Supreme Allied Cmdr., Europe; Donald E. Johnson, Administrator of Veterans Affairs: Robert E. Hampton, Chmn, U.S. Civil Service; Thomas P. Stafford, NASA's Deputy Director of Flight Crew Operations; Richard F. Walsh, President, IATSE and Moving Picture Operators; Houston's Mayor Louie Welch; Dr. Wesley W. Hall, President, American Medical Ass'n; Joe M. Dealey, American Nat'l Red Cross; James L. Hill, Nat'l Education Ass'n; A. Boyd Hinds, Boys Club of America; and Michael R. Patton, President, Nat'l Ass'n of Collegiate Veterans.

The Nat'l Commander's Dinner to Distinguished Guests packed the Astroworld Hotel Ballroom, Houston's largest. The guests saw a slide show of world mil-



Six representatives of American youth attended the convention officially as The American Legion's guests. Above, five are presented by outgoing Nat'l Cmdr Chamie. L. to r. they are: William H. White, of Texas, the 1971 American Legion Oratorical Contest winner; Carroll W. Watts, of Oklahoma, 1970 Legion Baseball Player-of-the-Year; Joseph S. Zagorski, of Pennsylvania, representing Legion-sponsored Boy Scout units; Nat'l Cmdr Chamie; Pelton H. Stewart, of California, representing Boys Clubs of America and the Legion's interest in that program; and John C. Glunt, of Missouri, 1971 American Legion Boys Nation president. Presented separately was Sons of The American Legion representative, J. Richard Stillwell, of Illinois.



Secretary of State William P. Rogers.

itary power ploys in the Pacific, presented by Adm. John S. McCain, Jr., U.S. CinC in the Pacific, and were entertained by comedian Dick Shawn.

Too long to list here are 38 points of a Legion policy adopted by the convention dealing with the drug problem.

Much of it is guidelines and suggestions for action by local posts and districts to help attack the drug problem where it is. It was the clear intention of the convention that local Legion units procure the full drug policy statement from higher levels if their state organizations don't pass it down. A



Taiwan Ambassador James C.H. Shen.

separate story on the formation of the drug policy resolution appears here on page 33. There's not a post that cannot find something in it to translate into action against drug abuse.

There were more than 100 Vietnam Legionnaires at the convention in one official capacity or another. Some of the older ones have been serving on national commissions for some time. Others were delegates and Legion staffers. A group of 50 Viet Vets met in a

special Vietnam Legionnaire's workshop, about which there's a brief special story below.

The convention adopted a large number of resolutions aimed at the better readjustment of Vietnam veterans. Some of them spelled out internal Legion assistance programs aimed especially at helping Viet vets procure their rights, get jobs, etc. Others endorsed federal proposals which the Legion would seek to have passed for the special benefit of Vietnam veterans. Many of these were connected with their job rights, and the enlargement of their em-



Shimon Peres, Israeli Minister.

ployment opportunities. Others sought to improve their VA benefits, especially educational benefits—which aren't equal to those of WW2 and Korea.

The convention asked that Vietnam

#### **LEGION VIETNAM VETERANS WORKSHOP**

bility to assume our place in the ranks, to grow within our capabilities and—with other members of The American Legion—to practice the Preamble of The American Legion Constitution." That was one of the major points made in a report to the convention by a group of over 50 Vietnam Legionnaires from around the country. Earlier in the week they'd met at a workshop session to discuss the problems and roles of the newest generation of Legionnaires.

They also called for Legion emphasis in four primary areas: (a) To provide



... then gathered as a body to listen to group summations and elect officers.

Viet vets met in small groups ...

a proper welcome home for veterans. recognition of their sacrifices and aid in their assimilation back into communities; (b) Assistance in broadening horizons through education and employment; (c) Opportunity to assume a meaningful community role through Legion programs; (d) Rededication of the

Legion to Americanism programs.

They thanked the Legion for its leadership in benefits programs and looked forward to Legion-mandated improvements in their G. I. Bill.

Over 50 more Viet Legionnaires at the Convention were unable to attend the workshop due to other duties.

veterans' full tuition be paid (as it is not now), and on top of that asked for a VA guaranteed educational loan program for them. Some Viet vets haven't been able to afford to go to college because costs are often far higher than the set monthly payments under their limited GI Bill.

The convention also asked for mustering-out pay for Vietnam veterans to help tide them over the transition period right after their release from active duty—something earlier veterans got which they have not had.

Two convention speakers gave the



Legionnaires crowding around exhibit at NASA. The space center proved to be a top drawing card for Legion visitors.

delegates such detailed accounts of what's cooking in their bailiwicks that they could hardly be called "briefings." Secretary of State Rogers covered almost the whole field of broad U.S. foreign policy under the Nixon Administration, while Gen. A. J. Goodpaster, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, gave such a thorough account of the entire military situation in Europe that his address, in writing, came to 16 single-spaced typewritten pages of hard facts on the defense of Europe.

There were 49 resolutions sent to the convention from the various Legion departments (states) requesting that the U.S. Flag Code be revised. The present code causes a good deal of mischief, being ambiguous in many matters and permitting a multitude of different in-



Legion National Staff members and post officers of George Washington Antoine Post 801, Houston, Tex., set up a permanent central city Veterans Assistance Center in the post home during the Convention. Here they counsel two vets (capless) on their problems. The Center is similar to one already in operation at George L. Giles Post 87 on the South Side of Chicago and another being planned for Detroit.

terpretations, while changing customs—such as the flying of the flag at night—have outmoded some of its suggestions.

The Legion had resoluted on this subject many times before. This time it cleared the decks by superseding all previous actions with a new call for revision of the code, and a list of specific changes it would like to see included. Virtually all interested groups have been calling for revision of the Flag Code for several years.

Among the many changes in the code suggested was one to make it a general rule, rather than an exception, for the flag to be flown at night if properly illuminated. Another approved proposal would allow all-weather flag display, if the particular flag is manufactured to stand up well under adverse conditions.

In our early history, the flag was often flown at night and suffered rough weather hardships as the scars of service. *Old Ironsides* flew a "tattered ensign," according to Holmes' poem, and it was a proud ensign, while the National Anthem refers to the flag flying all night.

Other suggestions offered better language to clear up confusion in the present code regarding the proper position for display of the flag under various circumstances. In interpreting the present code, there is sometimes even room for argument as to which is the right and which is the left. The existing code is also outdated



James L. Hill, Member, Board of Directors, National Education Association, brought NEA's greetings to convention delegates.

in a reference to flying flags from the radiator caps of cars. On today's cars the radiator cap is under the hood.

The U.S. Flag Code is basically an official statement of custom, etiquette and propriety, it having no penal provisions.

Legionnaires and the Legion gave and received compliments and awards. The Legion's highest award, its Distinguished Service Medal, was granted posthumously to two former members of the national legislature, the late Sen. Richard B. Russell, of Georgia and the late Rep. L. Mendel Rivers, of South Carolina.

Senator Russell's brother, Col. Walter B. Russell, and Representative Rivers' son, L. Mendel Rivers, Jr., accepted the (Continued on page 32)

#### WINNERS OF FOUR FREE FORDS



Miss Doris Anderson, Auxiliary Nat'l Sec'y, draws a winner.

WINNERS of four Ford convertibles, donated by the Seagram Posts, were decided by coupons drawn from drums in the Astrodome at the Drum & Bugle Corps Championships. They were, pending confirmation of membership: William Snyder, Post 634, Altoona, Pa.; Dorathy Murphy, Post 537, Appleton Falls, Wisc.; Joseph Couret, Sr., Post 307, New Orleans, La., and Roy Intorn, Post 146, Colome, S. Dak.



Convention applauds graciousness with which Nat'l Cmdr Chamie treated a delegate who tried to give him a hard time:



Convention patriotic and memorial service, led by Nat'l Chaplain Milton Faust.

awards for the deceased recipients.

William Bellamy, of San Antonio, Tex., and managing editor of the San Antonio Light, was on hand to present the William Randolph Hearst Americanism trophy to the American Legion Department of Delaware. It was accepted by the immediate past Delaware Commander, Don R. Herbert.

Two firms received Employer of the

Year awards from the Legion for their policies in hiring veterans. They were the Portsmouth plant of the Empire-Detroit Steel Division of the Cyclops Corp., New Boston, Ohio; and the Fred W. Beal Co. of Ellsworth, Me.

August A. Busch, of Anheuser-Busch Co., of St. Louis, got the Legion's Fourth Estate Award for sponsorship of meritorious TV programs.

In resolution 113, the convention authorized the Nat'l Commander to appoint a special committee on veterans medical care to examine the adequacy of the VA medical program and to study the impact of federal medical care proposals on the VA medical operation. The committee was mandated to report to the 1972 national convention.

John H. Geiger, in his acceptance of the Legion's Commandership for 1971-72, laid all his stress on stepping up Legion actions at all levels to implement its programs and policies during the coming year. He said that while the Legion has become a "respected force good in America... we can and will be more effective in the years ahead." He stressed the need for all posts to welcome Viet-



Noted columnist Bob Considine (left) accepts "Good Guy" Award from Past Dep't Commanders' Club. Past Nat'l Cmdr Bill Galbraith is shown making presentation.



The senior Past Nat'l Cmdr, John Quinn (Calif.), got laughs when he engineered a comic way out of a parliamentary dilemma

nam veterans home, help them with their problems, enroll them in membership and give them training and responsibility in Legion offices and committee work. He stressed further the seriousness of the national drug problem, the local nature of it, and the need for posts to study the 38-point drug-abuse policy adopted by the convention to determine which points might be translated into action in any particular locality. Let's add to our "Reach Out" slogan, he



Col. Thomas P. Stafford, NASA Deputy Director of Flight Crew Operations, and Commander of the 1969 Apollo Flight to the moon, addressed the convention.



Past Nat'l Cmdr Charles L. Bacon (1961-62, center) and many of the Dep't Commanders of 1961-62 pose for a reunion photo during tenth annual breakfast meeting.

said, and make it "Reach Out-It's Action Time."

In Res. 74, the convention took note of a dangerous situation in the nation called to its attention by the Legion's standing commission on Children & Youth—namely that a lot of the immunization against formerly dangerous diseases which many of us take for granted isn't happening anymore. The resolution pointed out that many children are not getting polio, measles and diphtheria immunization, so that the dangers of new outbreaks are imminent in some areas. The resolution called for local and state government action to step up immunization against contagious diseases, and urged posts of the Legion to determine if such situations exist locally and to spur action where needed.

One Internal Affairs resolution urged that Nat'l Hq directly bill members for their annual dues, on behalf of their posts. Most members like to be billed as a routine way to renew their dues when paying their other bills. Present billing is done by posts, with more than 16,000 post adjutants or finance officers having it as a responsibility. Billing could be computerized at Nat'l Hq, though the programming is complicated due to different posts having different dues structures—and the postage for one first class billing of the whole membership would be more than \$216,000. Earlier national computerization of membership records and cards, with copies supplied each post annually for all old members, saved an

#### A UNIFIED ATTACK ON THE DRUG PROBLEM

IFFERENT LEGION standing commissions have had separate interests in the problems caused by drug abuse. Three of them have been interested separately in the effects of drugs on youth, servicemen and veterans-and a fourth in the overseas origins of heroin. At the 1971 Convention the four Commissions (Children & Youth, Nat'l Security, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, and Foreign Relations) met jointly to formulate a unified Legion policy on the drug abuse problem.

They heard John Finlator, Deputy Director, Federal Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, call for enlightened education at all levels, including the grammar school level.

They heard Brig. Gen. George J. Hayes, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, report on what the military is doing to attempt to curb drug abuse and how drug dependent military men can voluntarily extend their active service in order to obtain treatment and begin rehabilitation before discharge.

They heard Dr. Lyndon E. Lee, Jr., the VA's Ass't Chief Medical Director for Professional Services, outline that agency's in-hospital and out-patient program for drug-addicted veterans once they are out of service.

And they heard Indiana State Police Supt Robert Konkle describe local police level problems and heard him call for the reduction of the market for drugs in order to make it unprofitable.

The joint group then adopted a sweeping, 38-point major policy statement on drugs that became part of the Children &

Youth Committee Report—later adopted by the full convention as the basis for a unified Legion attack on the "national emergency" drug abuse problem.



Four Legion Commissions, meeting jointly in unified drug abuse attack, hear top U.S. drug law official John Finlator.



Supt. Konkle

Psychiatrist and former addicts, now counselors, at Houston VA Hospital make an effective team in VA treatment of vet addicts.



The Legion awarded two of its Distinguished Service Medals posthumously at the 53rd National Convention. One went to the Honorable Richard B. Russell, Senator from Georgia, and the other to the Honorable L. Mendel Rivers, Congressman from South Carolina. Shown above with Nat'l Cmdr Chamie (center) are Col. Walter B. Russell (left), accepting for his late brother, and L. Mendel Rivers, Jr., accepting for his late father.

enormous annual toil for post officers who previously kept their records and wrote renewal cards by hand.

Commander Chamie was able to report to the convention that Legion membership for 1971 passed 2,700,000 during the last week in August. It was then higher than at the end of any year since 1959, with four months still remaining to 1971.

Res. 621 urged that the formation of new Legion posts be a nationwide priority project, as there are many areas having large veteran populations but insufficient posts to conveniently provide them access to membership. Immediately at the close of the convention. Nat'l Cmdr John H. Geiger asked the members of the Nat'l Executive Committee to kick off the implementation of this convention policy by forming one new post in each of their 58 departments, and give a progress report on it at the fall meeting of the Nat'l Executive Committee.



Anheuser-Busch Pres. Gus Busch accepts Legion 4th Estate Award and congratulations from Nat'l Cmdr Chamie for his sponsorship of TV special on Americana.

In adopting Res. 621, the convention urged that state organizations assign the formation of new posts to District and County Commanders as one of the duties of their offices.

Res. 53 approved the idea of establishing a national paid-up life membership plan in the Legion. The Legion has never had such a plan nationally, and the chief stumbling block has been the different dues structure in each post and

state. There are now tens of thousands of Life Members of the Legion, but each is a Life Member under a post or state plan. Whether a single national plan could be devised unless there were a uniform nationwide dues structure on which to base it actuarily is a question that has so far defied practical solution.

Of three resolutions that went to floor debate, one was amended (China policy); one lacked the two-thirds vote necessary to amend the Legion Constitution (a proposal to extend membership beyond periods of actual hostility in wartime), and one was overwhelmingly adopted (the nat'l dues increase). The need for the latter had been thoroughly aired for two years, so that the Legion's financial problems were well understood by most of the delegates.

The Nat'l Executive Committee met immediately after the convention closed. It reappointed Nat'l Adj't William F. Hauck, Nat'l Judge Advocate Bertram G. Davis, and Nat'l Treasurer Francis W. Polen, and it appointed G. Greer McCallister (Ohio) as Nat'l Historian.

The fall meeting of the NEC was set for Oct. 20-21, and the Conference of Dep't Commanders and Adjutants for Oct. 18-19, both at Indianapolis Nat'l Hq. The annual Washington Conference was set for Feb. 27-March 3. With the Senate now having a Veterans Affairs Committee, the entire day of Feb. 29 is set aside for Conference appearances before the vets' committees of the two houses of Congress. Previously a half



Rev. Milton Faust, outgoing Nat'l Chaplain (white suit) and Legion staff members prepare drum for prize drawing near close of Convention. Five delegates present on the floor were lucky winners. (Several others whose names were drawn were not present and missed out on the prizes.) The winning delegates: Fulton A. Jenkins, Post 287, Houston, Tex., gun in case; Wilbur Koch, Post 95, Paullina, Iowa, TV set; John Wuebbens, Post 456, Flanagan, Ill., camera; Verne Schmitt, Post 180, Great Bend, Kans., Legion uniform coat and pants; Donald M. Lory, Post 183, Parkville, Md., matched set of golf clubs; and Dr. Michael J. Crino, Post 180, Rochester, N.Y., set of luggage.



Robert E. Hampton, Chmn, U.S. Civil Service Commission, expresses 15 years of satisfaction working with Legion Washington representatives on behalf of vets.

day was allowed for a House appearance.

The spring meeting of the NEC was set for May 2-4.

The Homecoming for Nat'l Cmdr John H. Geiger was set for Chicago this Oct. 15-16.

At the concurrent national convention of the American Legion Auxiliary in Houston, Mrs. Robert L. Parker, Tahlequah, Okla., was elected Nat'l President and Mrs. T. G. Chilton. Superior. Ariz., Nat'l Vice President. Other officers included Mrs. Lester Nimon, Massillon, Ohio, Nat'l Chaplain; Mrs. Earl Bigalow, Medford, Ore., Nat'l Historian, and five divisional vice presidents—Mrs. Arthur Ward, New London, Conn.; Mrs. James R. Williams, Kingwood, W. Va.; Mrs. Ira E. Anderson, Greeley, Colo.; Mrs. Kemp Honeycutt, Hickory, N.C.; and Mrs. Paul Brown, Filor, Idaho.

The ass'n of Legion historians elected Mrs. Hazel A. Carlson, of Minneapolis, as president for the coming year at its annual breakfast meeting.

The American Legion Press Association chose Salvador A. Quintana, of Livingston, N.J., as its new president.

The Sons of The American Legion elected John Smolinsky, Tewksbury, Mass., as National Chairman of the representative group which meets at convention time. About 150 SAL's attended a workshop and caucus in Houston.



The first of a limited edition of a Houston convention commemorative bottle is presented to Nat'l Cmdr Chamie (center) by Tom O'Shea (left), President, Ezra Brooks distillers. At right, Wm. Hauck, Nat'l Adj't.

#### SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

REVEN CONVENTION committees met in advance of the full business meetings and recommended action on all resolutions offered to the Convention. With one exception, the committee recommendations were adopted by the full Convention, but not without considerable debate on some.

The committees considered 627 resolutions. The sense of 383 of them was embodied in 45 resolutions that were adopted. One hundred and thirteen were referred for more study, 86 were rejected and 45 were received and recorded. A "received and recorded" resolution is one whose sense is approved, but whose passage is not necessary for one reason or another (existing policy, already implemented, no longer needed, etc.).

Following is a digest of all adopted resolutions. The digest is a guide to the sense of the resolutions and should not be construed as representing their exact terms. Legionnaires interested in the full text of a resolution for some particular reason may ask for it (by number and heading that appears below) from: Archives, American Legion National Hq., P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

Seen here are the chairmen of the convention committees that screened all resolutions.

**ECONOMIC** 

Clarence Campbell

Vermont

LEGISLATION

Clarence Horton

Alabama



AMERICANISM Daniel O'Connor New York



FINANCE Churchill Williams lowa



**MEMBERSHIP** William Gormley Pennsylvania

1. Raises National Legion dues for 1972 to \$2.50 from \$2.00, except that the rate remains at \$2.00 for all 1972 dues paid on or before Dec. 31, 1971.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

No resolutions adopted

INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MEMBERSHIP 53. Urges a direct billing of members for annual dues by Nat'l Hq. instead of by Posts, to take best advantage of the Nat'l Hq. computerized billing potential.

338. Approves a commemorative stamp honoring the first enlisted women in the U.S. armed



Donald E. Johnson, VA director, addressing the convention. Among points he stressed was current need to restore respect for our Armed Forces if national security is not to be gravely endangered.

442. Urges the Nat'l Organization to adopt a paid-up Life Membership Program.
446. A memorial tribute to trumpeter Louis Arm-

620. Commends the Dep't of Illinois for its Service to Viet-Vets Program.
621. Urges as an immediate priority project the formation of new Legion Posts.

#### LEGISLATION AND RULES

618. Seeks a separate Congressional Appropriations Act for VA funds, instead of including them in the independent agencies act.

CHILDREN & YOUTH
74. Seeks funds and means to provide all chil-



CHILDREN, YOUTH Earl Franklin, Jr. Colorado



CONSTITUTIONAL **AMENDMENTS** Francis Giordano New York



**FOREIGN** RELATIONS Thomas Whelan N. Dakota



INTERNAL **AFFAIRS** Donald Smith Michigan



NATIONAL SECURITY Emmett Lenihan Washington



**VETS AFFAIRS** REHABILITATION William Lenker S. Dakota



The throng of 1,758 diners at the Nat'l Cmdr's Dinner to Distinguished Guests at the Astroworld Hotel Ballroom.



A happy table at Seagram Posts' party.



The Auxiliary's States Dinner



There was hardly room to move at party hosted by Schenley Post 1190, N.Y.



Louisiana's annual social—always popular.

### SOCIAL EVENTS

☐ HE PHOTOS at left and below are only a little bit of the various official and private dinners, receptions and parties held at Houston. A Legion convention is a highly social gathering, with far more friendly events going on than meets the eye. Others meeting (some of whom combined business affairs with social events) included: The American Legion Press Ass'n; the Foreign and Outlying Posts and Departments; the Society of American Legion Founders (who elected Hugh Haugherty, Okla., as president); the Chaplains; the World War Nurses; the Past Commanders: the Nat'l Yeomen F; the 8 & 40; the 20 & 4; Anavicus, a joint society of U.S. and Canadian veterans: and alumni of the 1954 American Legion College. The Governor of Kentucky hosted a Mint Julep Party in honor of outgoing Nat'l Cmdr Chamie. No tally exists of the number of private parties.

Convention photos and text by R. B. Pitkin, Al Marshall, John Andreola, James Swartz, Roy Miller and Walter Boll.



Friends of Julius Levy (Pa.), long chairman of the Legion's Nat'l Emblem Sales committee (left, above), threw him a party.



Legion Historians' breakfast.

### SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS (CONT'D)

dren with immunization shots for all communi-103. Calls for immediate funds to fight venereal

disease.

104, Seeks law guaranteeing education and training for all handicapped children.

610. Adopts a 38-point American Legion policy statement on drugs and drug abuse.

NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS 7. Supports law to make military retirement pay commensurate with current active duty rates 16. Seeks a Universal Military Training Program for all physically and mentally able youths.



Dr. Wesley W. Hall, Pres., American Medical Ass'n (left) and A. Boyd Hinds, Nat'l Director, Boys' Clubs of America (right).

34. Seeks to assure that every right and protection be given members of the armed forces charged with a crime.
45. Reaffirms support of the Supersonic Transport Aircraft Program.
61. Urges continuation of OAS boycott of Cuba and cut-off of aid to OAS members violating the boycott.

and cut-off of aid to OAS members violating the boycott.

64. Supports reversion of Ryukyus to Japan but seeks continued use of Okinawa bases for the present.

65. Seeks greater military and financial participation in NATO by its members, with present U.S. troop strength maintained to counter communist forces.

munist forces.

66. Supports efforts to maintain a balanced conventional military force for a strong national de-

68. Urges Congress to give continued support for strategic airlift programs.

82. Calls for world agreement on maximum lim-

82. Calls for world agreement on maximum limits of territorial waters.

124. Seeks an up-dating of Legion policy toward the UN.

127. Commends each volunteer taking part in the raid on Sontay POW camp in N. Vietnam.

128. Endorses issuance of patches for use by American Legion blood donor chairmen.

130. Commends the Reserve Officers Association and the State Applies of the Applies of the State Applies of the State of

on its 50th anniversary



The first Vietnam vet to be a state commander of the Legion, Libert J. Pakele, Jr, Hawaii, is introduced to the convention (left). At right, Gil Moody, Texas com-mander, engaging in floor debate. He's the son of Ward Moody, ex-Texas Adjt.

139. Condemns action of those responsible for release of the "Pentagon Papers" and urges

145. Seeks immediate issuance of permits to construct the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline.

167. Reaffirms support of a strong national de-

force.

170. Requests national military information centers to assist discharged veterans with carryover military problems.

193. Supports laws protecting law enforcement personnel in performance of their duties.

207. Opposes amnesty or freedom from prosecution for U.S. draft dodgers or deserters.

256. Supports ROTC programs and seeks improvements to upgrade the programs.

Vietnam Congressional Medal Winner Raymond Clausen, Jr., of Louisiana, one of several CMH winners at the convention, speaks to the delegates in the hall.

257. Urges immediate action to fully implement the Merchant Marine Act of 1970.
271. Supports House bill preventing restrictions on importation of strategic materials from non-

communist countries.

273. Urges federal support for the Air Force's F-15 Aircraft Program.

275. Seeks Administration and Congressional support for an Airborne Warning and Control

support for the system.

276. Urges government to fully support efforts to improve the Minuteman Force Program.

300. Urges prosecution of instigators and principals in unlawful demonstrations under the Civil Rights Act.

302. Seeks correction of judicial laws to give defendants a speedy trial and avoid courtroom political farces.

political farces.
303. Seeks enforcement of laws to bring to jus-



Past Nat'l Cmdr John R. Quinn (Cal.) presents plaque and colors to outgoing Nat'l Cmdr Chamie (right). Left to right at rear are Past Nat'l Cmdrs William Burke and Warren Atherton (Cal.), N.Y. Dep't Adjt Maurice Stember (white cap), and partly hidden behind Chamie, Past Nat'l Vice Cmdr Robert Eaton of Maryland.

tice criminal violators of public and personal

property.

305. Supports the President in his efforts to

305. Supports the President in his efforts to preserve the national security.
307. Urges steps taken to improve overseas housing for U.S. servicemen and their families.
321. Invites Canadian veterans to undertake a campaign of correspondence to secure the release of POWs.

release of POWs.
328. Reaffirms support of Aerospace Education
Program for American youth.
329. Urges federal action to expedite development and deployment of a space shuttle.
330. Urges federal support for the B-1 bomber

331. Seeks necessary support for the deploy-ment of the Safeguard anti-ballistic missile system. 348. Urges enforcement of laws pertaining to the uniform and insignia worn by U.S. military

forces.
358. Seeks full official support to provide an A-X aircraft, for close support missions.
361. Urges lifting of restrictions on Air Force Research and Development Program funds.
384. Seeks to create an American Legion National Police Cadet Program.
416. Stresses due consideration be given to matters of extenuation and mitigation in all reviews in the case of Lt. William L. Calley, Jr.
436. Urges the U.S. to end its economic boycott













CONTINUED THE LEGION'S NATIONAL CONVENTION



Hawthorne, N.J., girl color bearers form a streetwide front.

## THE LEGION'S PARADE

THE LEGION'S 53rd Annual National Parade of eight divisions, including better than 15,000 Legionnaires, floats and musical marching groups, preceded by U.S. military units, stepped off the starting line at 7 p.m., Aug. 30. They marched a 11/4-mile-long circuit through downtown Houston that wound up five hours later under starry and surprisingly balmy skies at a disband point adjacent to the starting point. Houstonians, accustomed to high humidity and heat at this time of the year, even enjoyed occasional fresh breezes as they watched from curbside and upper windows. They applauded the marehers and there were plenty of "eivilian" salutes for the colors of the various units as they passed by in orderly ranks.

Host department, Texas, wound up the parade with mounted and foot units.



Among parade spectators.





















The Alabama National Guard Band, which hasn't missed marching in the Legion parade in more years than anyone can remember, was there again.





### SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS (CONT'D)

of Rhodesia and to establish full diplomatic rela-

450. Opposes Senate ratification of the so-called

450. Opposes sender railication of the so-called Genocide Treaty.
451. Reaffirms its petition to have Congress initiate a NATO defense medal.
462. Supports President's visit to Red China but warns against giving any unilateral concessions.

to Peking. 486. Condemns Hanoi for failing to adhere to



Michael R. Patton brings Legion greetings and request for aid from Vietnam vets now in college. He heads Nat'l Association of Collegiate Veterans.

the terms of the Geneva Convention on POWs. 487. Supports the removal of all Indochina POWs to a neutral nation, pending agreement on their

release.

488. Endorses the President's policy of Vietnamization and for achieving peace as the best means for ending the conflict.

490. Calls upon U.S. to urge Japan to enlarge its participation in the military, political and economic areas in her region.

492. Urges U.S. to provide modern aircraft and



B. B. Hester, Past Dep't Cmdr of Texas, and Chmn of the Board of the Houston Convention Corp., presents a surprised Bill Miller (left), Legion National Convention Director, with a plaque of appreciation for his year-long working out of all convention details.

arms to Israel to maintain a balance of power

arms to Israel to maintain a balance of power pending a settlement.

494. Reafirms opposition to any agreements with Panama that would weaken U.S. control over the Canal and Zone.

496. Asks Congress for funds to build a new fleet of modern containerized merchant vessels.

499. Opposes limiting the President's constitutional authority as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

519. Reafirms opposition to diplomatic recognition of Red China and its admission to the U.N.

549. Urges continuation of the Selective Service System.

System.

560. Upholds rights and benefits of women serving in the U.S. armed forces.

616. Seeks funds to fully support increased Reserve and National Guard requirements.



Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., U.S. Pacific Commander in Chief, who briefed guests at the National Commander's Dinner.





Joe Dealey (left) Member, Board of Directors, American National Red Cross and Jewish War Veterans Nat'l Cmdr Jerome Cohen (right) brought greetings to convention.

**617.** Asks necessary incentives be made to maintain authorized strength of National Guard and Reserves

Reserves.
622. Seeks the upgrading of housing conditions for our military and their dependents.
623. Seeks sufficient funds to stock Civil Defense tallout shelters.
624. Seeks a separate dep't for Office of Civil Defense, reporting directly to the Sec'y of Defense,

625. Asks a change in current policy to allow





Top leaders spoke to the convention. Above, (left) Gen. A. J. Goodpaster, Supreme NATO Commander, and (right) Richard F. Walsh, theatrical union international president.

Civil Defense a better share in the Surplus Property Program.

626. Endorses an extensive fallout shelter program on a national level.

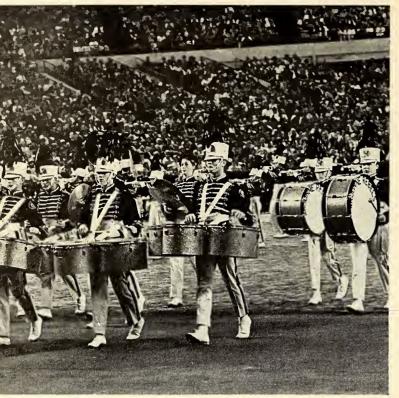
### AMERICANISM

25. Urges law to restore traditional patriotic holidays to their original dates.
91. Seeks to amend Flag Code, and proposes specific changes. **268.** Seeks law to prohibit flying flag of countries

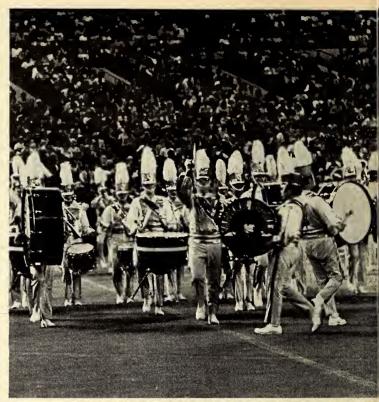


Delegates on the floor.

or groups hostile to the U.S. and holding U.S. POWs.
343. Endorses action taken to restore order in the nation's capital during week of protests in April '71.
480. Urges that loyalty oaths be reinstated for all civil servants in all positions.
535. Seeks to amend the Nat'l Student Defense Loan Act to eliminate necessity of a veteran's Parent's Confidential Statement.
19. Commends J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI, 185. Supports House Committee on Internal Security and Senate Internal Security Subcommittee.







Above and right, the Yankee Rebels, Post 20, Baltimore, Md.

CONTINUED THE LEGION'S NATIONAL CONVENTION-



Chorus: Singing Legionnaires, Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Post 15.



Quartet: Sioux Falls' Post 15.

## NATIONAL MUSICAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

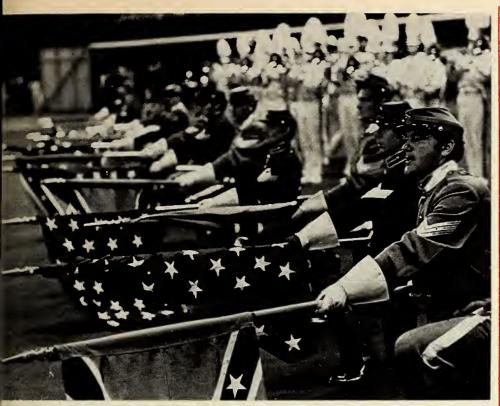
N Sunday, August 29, Houston's famed Astrodome resounded to the cheers of an enthusiastic audience, on hand for the Legion's annual National Drum & Bugle Corps Championship finals and Parade of Champions. Brilliant musicianship was the order of the evening as nine Junior Corps and three Senior Corps competed for the top honors.

The Argonne Rebels, Post 180, Great Bend, Kan., with a score of 83.00, walked off with the National Junior championship. The Yankee Rebels, Post 20, Baltimore, Md., defending Senior champs, retained their No. 1 spot, racking up a score of 83.35.

Also capturing first-spot awards in other competitions were the Jersey Chevrons, Post 40, Ridgefield Park, N.J., Sr. Color Guard champions; the White Tornadoes, Post 40, Momence, Ill., Jr. Color Guard winners; the Joliet Legion Band, Post 1284, Joliet, Ill., Sr. Band titlists; the Junior Band of the Los Angeles Police Post, duplicating its 1970 sweep; the Little Bills Firing Squad, of Chicago's Commonwealth Edison Post, which outscored its challengers; the Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Post 15 Men's Chorus and Quartet Champions, repeating 1970's double win; and the Motorcycle Drill Team, Police Post 56, Indianapolis, Ind.



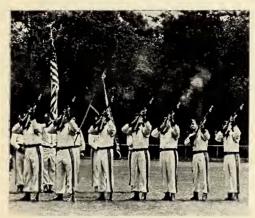
Sr. Color Guard: Post 40, Ridgefield Park, N.J



Senior Drum & Bugle Corps champs, display their winning form.



Jr. Color Guard: Post 40, Momence, III.



Firing Squad: Post 118, Chicago, III.



Junior Band: Los Angeles Police Post 381.



Senior Band: Joliet, III., Legion Band, Post 1284.

### SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS (CONT'D)



Luncheon of Anavicus, a sort of auxiliary of a prestigious Canadian veterans group in which it accepts Legionnaires as a token of international amity.

**374.** Commends Lawrence Welk on his TV show, "Thank You America." **390.** Deplores attempts by various groups to undermine the FBI and its director.

VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION 22. Sponsors bill setting June 1, 1970, as effective date of increased Servicemen's Group Life Insurance



Delegates on the floor.

compensation payable under certain serviceconnected disabilities.

100. Supports bill to provide additional burial
sites at Custer Battlefield Nat'l Cemetery.

113. Authorizes Nat'l Cmdr to appoint a special
Committee on Veterans Medical Care.

194. Supports bill to provide mustering-out pay
to honorably discharged Vietnam vets.

199. Supports bill to increase veterans burial allowance to \$500.

215. Seeks law to provide that where an eligible



William B. Bellamy, Managing Editor, San Antonio Light (right), presents Wm. Randolph Hearst Americanism Trophy to Immediate Past Dep't Cmdr Don Herbert of Delaware, who accepts for the department which has won award five years in a row.

veteran dies in a state veterans home, the VA shall pay the cost of transporting the remains to place of burial. 216, Seeks law to provide an aid and attendance allowance to dependent parents of veterans who



Delegates on the floor.



John Geiger of Illinois (left), newly elected Nat'l Cmdr, has arm raised in victory salute by outgoing Nat'l Cmdr Chamie.



Nat'l Cmdr and Mrs. John H. Geiger (right) pose with five of their six children on platform following election. Another daughter, married, was not present for photo.



The new National Commander, the five National Vice Commanders, and the Nat'l Chaplain. MacCarthy (V.C.) Young (V.C.) Schwaab (Chaplain) Wiles (V.C.) Sweet (V.C.) Geiger (Cmdr) Fann (V.C.)

### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

THE CHOICE of John H. Geiger of Illinois for National Commander of the Legion for 1971-72 was so unanimous that the rollcall for nominations on Thurs. Sept. 2 was stopped after 18 states had been called. The delegates voted to suspend the rules, end the nominations, do away with a balloting rollcall and elect Geiger unanimously. Eric Smith, of Illinois, had nominated him, and Frost Pat-



Eric Smith of Illinois nominates Geiger for National Commander.

terson, of Iowa, seconded Smith. The new Commander was born in Iowa, where his father, the late Hugo Geiger, was a Legion founder in 1919 and long a state Legion leader.

The following five National Vice Commanders were unanimously elected: Harold W. Fann. Lexington, Ky.; Arthur M. MacCarthy, Tallahassee, Fla.; Roy Sweet, Windsor, Vt.; Harry G. Wiles, Topeka, Kans., and Wallace C.S. Young, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Rev. Paul J. Schwaab, Ponca, Neb., was named National Chaplain.



The whole convention hailed Geiger's nomination (above) and shouted its unanimous vote for him (below).





As he accepted office, the new Nat'l Cmdr issued a strong call for Legion action in the coming year to implement its programs.

### SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS (CONT'D)



217. Sponsors legislation to improve veterans death and disability pension benefits.

280. Supports law providing commissary and post exchange privileges for certain war veterans widows.

309. Seeks to amend law to extend VA pension benefits six months after death of a dependent

benefits six months dictions of a payee.

310. Sponsors law to extend by one year eligibility rights for permanent and total disabilities.

311. Seeks to amend law to authorize lump sum VA death payments to any authorized next-of-

kin
339. Supports law extending VA grants-in-aid
program for Philippine army vets with serviceconnected disability.
342. Seeks law to authorize tuition payments
and VA direct-education loans for Vietnam vets.
350. Seeks law extending VA grants-in-aid for
research at Philippine Veterans Memorial Hos-

pital.

370. Seeks law providing benefits to families of deceased vets whose deaths are presumed to be hastened by service-connected disabilities.

388. Seeks legislation providing Dep't of Defense funds for setting government-issued grave

markers.
420. Seeks sufficient funds to meet demands of first-quality hospital care in VA hospitals.
455. Reaffirms opposition to the restricted burial policy in Arlington Nat'l Cemetery.
471. Supports law eliminating monthly certification of attendance for vocational technical students.

tion of attendance for vocational technical stadents.

502. Opposes closing of U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Fort Worth, Tex.

507. Seeks law to provide that kidney and heart transplants qualify as statutory total disabilities for VA benefit purposes.

544. Seeks to extend apprenticeship and on-job training benefits to eligible wives and widows of veterans and wives of POW/MIAs.

619. Seeks law authorizing direct admission of veterans to public or private nursing home care at U.S. expense.

14. Supports the U.S. Savings Bonds Program.
20. Seeks adequate funds and support for federal and state veterans employment services. and state veterans employment services 33. Seeks veterans priority in job listings in Dep't of Labor, state services and Manpower Administration.

157. Seeks VA Regional offices authority for approval of direct home loans.

proval of airect name round.

205. Supports the President's "Jobs for Veter-

205. Supports the President's jobs to rotations. Program.
317. Seeks necessary funds to provide priority manpower and related services to all veterans.
318. Urges increased federal, state and Legion efforts for training and assistance of vets in

318. Urges increased federal, state and Legion efforts for training and assistance of vets in business ownership.
319. Seeks effective procedures in Dep't of Labor to assure veterans preference for jobs.
354. Supports legislation pertaining to veterans unemployment compensation payments.
355. Seeks veterans preference in training under all federal training programs
356. Supports employment aid to Vietnam vets and seeks to alert them to the special Veterans Readjustment Appointments Program.
412. Urges stepped-up support for the Legion's successful "Jobs for Veterans" Program.
564. Reaffirms support for the Veterans Reemployment Rights Program and seeks adequate funds for its effective service.
574. Commends the 4-H Clubs of America.
611. Requests veterans representation on the President's economic policy-making body.
612. Enunciates a seven-point Legion Economic Program dealing with vets jobs.
613. Opposes reopening of Civil Service register until veteran applicants have been considered for appointment.
614. Seeks to place the Emergency Employment

tor appointment

614. Seeks to place the Emergency Employment
Act of 1971 under an agency providing manpower services.

615. Seeks placement of Vietnam veterans in the Veterans Employment Service



### West Covina, Cal., Team Wins Legion World Series Again

For the second year in a row, the teenage baseball team sponsored by West Covina Post 790, West Covina, Cal., has won The American Legion Baseball World Series in games held at Hi Corbett Field, Tucson, Ariz., Sept. 2-7.

West Covina thus becomes the third team in A.L. Baseball history to win two years in a row. The Region 8 champs played in seven games and scored a total of 67 runs. They bested Region 6 champs, Hanford Post 5, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 16-1 in the final game.

Other Regional champs: Region 1, Wm. Shields Post 43, Warwick, R.I.; Region 2, Barringer-Walker-LoPinto Post 139, Lyndhurst, N.J.; Region 3, Congaree Post 90, West Columbia, S.C.; Region 4, Beppo-Arnold-Knowles Post 32, Greenville, Miss.; Region 5, Lincoln Park, Mich., Post 67; Region 7, Luke-Greenway Post 1, Phoenix, Ariz.

American Legion Baseball Player of the Year for 1971 is Randy G. Haas, 18, of West Covina.

Winner of the 1971 Legion batting title and the Hillerich & Bradsby Louisville Slugger Trophy is Rod Walton, the Phoenix catcher, who also won the "Click" Cowger RBI Award.

The James F. Daniel, Jr., Memorial Sportsmanship Award went to Michael Curran, 18, Cedar Rapids 3rd baseman.

Attendance at the 15-game tourney was over 12,000. A surprise shower delayed game 13 for about two hours as West Covina was playing Lincoln Park, but the heavy-hitting Californians won, 8-3, rested an hour and then clubbed previously unbeaten Cedar Rapids, 16-4, creating the tie which led to game 15. West Covina scored 32 runs off the Iowa

Those who competed at Tucson were the eight survivors among the following winners of state and other Department summer-long competition:

Alabama Post 34, Tuscaloosa Alaska Post 1, Anchorage, Arizona Post 1, Phoenix Arkansas Post 24, Blytheville, California Post 790, West Covina, Colorado Post 203, Pueblo, Connecticut Post 17, Naugatuck Delaware Post 31, Wilmington Florida Post 13, Tallahassee, Georgia Post 47, Calhoun, Hawaii, Holsum Bread Co., Honolulu Idaho Post 13, Lewiston, Illinois Post 205, Galesburg, Indiana Post 495, Indianapolis, Iowa Post 55, Cedar Rapids, Kansas Post 173, Hayes, Kentucky Post 88, Corbin, Louisiana Post 175, Metairie, Maine Post 4, Gardiner, Maryland Post 211, Funkstown, Massachusetts Post 155, Leominster, Michigan Post 110, Mt. Pleasant, Minnesota Post 39, N. St. Paul, Mississippi Post 32, Greenville Missouri Post 69, Springfield, Montana Post 4, Billings, Nebraska Post 1, Omaha, Nevada Post 8, Las Vegas, New Hampshire Post 21, Concord, N.J. Post 72, Brooklawn, New Mexico Post 1, Santa Fe. New York Post 1451, Wheatfield, North Carolina Post 342, Salisbury, North Dakota Post 112, Ft. Cobb, Oregon Post 16, Roseburg, Panama Canal Zone Post 3, Gatun, Pennsylvania Post 471, Boyerton, Puerto Rico Post 39, Manati, Rhode Island Post 43, Warwick, South Carolina Post 90, Congaree, South Dakota Post 12, Rapid City, Tennessee Post 1, Memphis, Texas Post 140, Longview, Utah Post 131, Provo, Vermont Post 2, Burlington, Virginia Post 180, Vienna, Washington Post 180, Tieton West Virginia Post 19, Logan, Wisconsin Post 205, Janesville, Wyoming Post 2, Casper.



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Clinical tests have shown that an alkaloid called Lobeline Sulfate is an effective smoking deterrent. Lobeline works not by making smoking unpleasant, but by acting as a substitute for the nicotine in your system without being habit forming. It helps to remove the craving and to reduce withdrawal symptoms.

### Do I need a prescription to get Lobeline Sulfate?

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### Doesn't that leave me where I started?

No indeed. A number of years ago scientists at a great American University determined to tackle the problem. They discovered that buffering Lobeline Sulfate with two special antacids virtually eliminated any likelihood of stomach upset. Also these buffers greatly increased the efficiency of the Lobeline.

## Where can I get this buffered Lobeline Sulfate?

This new discovery was a great breakthrough in the smoking deterrent field. It was immediately patented\* and is now available under the name of Bantron. No other smoking deterrent has such a patent. Bantron is a little white tablet, pleasant and easy to take. Many doctors recommend it to their patients and you can get it at any drug store without a prescription.

## What about all those lozenges and chewing gums advertised as deterrents?

If they contain Lobeline Sulfate at all, they cannot give you the efficiency of Bantron. Bantron is the only major smoking deterrent based on buttered Lobeline Sulfate. Because of this Bantron can safely give you four times as much Lobeline in a single dose as any other deterrent in the drug store.

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\*U.S. Pat. No. 2705695

### **OUR MOST UNDERRATED PRESIDENT: JAMES K. POLK**

(Continued from page 27)

defeated Van Buren's bid for a second term. Harrison got wet in the Inauguration rain, and soon died, leaving the White House to Vice President John Tyler of "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" fame—a man who disgusted both parties.

In 1841, the Whigs in Tennessee ran a slender comedian named "Lean Jimmy" Jones to oust Polk from the governorship. Polk wore himself out arguing reason against the appeal of a clown. But Lean Jimmy won. Jones entertained crowds during the campaign. Polk was always deadly serious, though a friend advised him: "Governor, you make an ass of yourself trying to talk sense to a damned fool and his followers."

Polk was now out of office for the first time in nearly two decades, and his political career seemed to be drawing to a close. He practiced law for two years. In 1843, he took on Jones again without expecting to win, but simply to keep his party alive. Jones won by the narrow margin of 3,000 votes. This second defeat tested Polk's leadership of the Democrats in Tennessee. Anti-Polk factions began to rise among those who'd always acknowledged him as their state leader.

Andrew Jackson didn't see it that way. From Nashville he wrote to Van Buren that Polk had done better against the Whigs than most Democrats in the country in 1843. "He descrves the thanks of the Democracy of the whole Union. He fought... well, and fought alone, and cracked the Whig strength in Tennessee, a prelude to what will happen elsewhere." Polk now aspired to run for Vice President under Van Buren in 1844, and the aging Jackson agreed that he'd carned the right.

THERE HAS NEVER been a Presidential l election that produced bigger surprises than that of 1844. Henry Clay was the Whigs' foreordained candidate, and he was off and running early. President Tyler threatened to run on his own as an "Independent Whig." The Democrats assumed that Van Buren would be their candidate again (and so did Van Buren). But a host of ambitious Democrats were jockeying to be Van Buren's running mate. He kept his silence on his choice for Vice President, waiting till the last minute to see which of them might bring the most support to his ticket on election day.

Another "old hero." R. M. Johnson. actively campaigned to be President or Van Buren's V.P.. telling audiences how he'd killed the Indian chief, Tecumseh. Lewis Cass. of Michigan, was a favorite of many for Vice President. In Tennessee, many of Polk's Democrats declared

for Cass in spite of Polk's own ambitions. Further, a majority of them refused to commit themselves to Van Buren for President. Later on, they went to the convention in Baltimore uncommitted for the first ballot. This was a painful blow to Polk, always a Van Buren man and wanting Van Buren's nod for second place on the ticket. Cave Johnson, a power in Tennessee politics and always a Polk supporter, tried to persuade Van Buren to name Polk as his choice, but could only report back that Van Buren remained uncommitted.

Polk, despondent, took an early spring trip to a plantation he owned in Mississippi. On his return, to keep his name up and make an issue against the Whigs, he declared for the immediate annexation of Texas (a proposition that Clay opposed) and for the final settlement of the quarrel with England over the Oregon Territory.

T WASN'T THE part of statesmanship to annex Texas at this time. Mexico still laid claim to the new Lonc Star Republic and hoped to reconquer her. But the popular fever was high to absorb Texas, and Texas wanted to be annexed. Further, Britain was jockeying to reward Mexico if she'd recognize Texas on terms that would make Texas a permanent republic friendly to Britain.

Britain was also claiming the Oregon Territory (most of our present Northwest), while we claimed it all the way up the present British Columbia coast to Russian Alaska. Meanwhile, there were fears that Britain and Russia might vie to wrest the California coast from Mexico if we didn't beat them to it. But, except for the Texas question, most of the nation was concentrating on its internal quarrels.

It was settled Democratic policy to annex Texas in spite of the slavery issue involved. If the South wanted Texas to add to the slave states, sentiment was quite heavy in the North to annex Texas before she fell into another sphere—and figure out the Texan slave question in "some way." So Polk was on sound popular and party grounds in urging annexation.

But on April 27, 1844, both Van Buren and Clay publicly opposed annexation of Texas in separate statements, for the same reasons—chiefly the danger of war with Mexico.

Democrats in Tennessee could not believe Van Buren's statement. When they were finally convinced of it, Andrew Jackson raged in his Hermitage, outside Nashville, that his old friend had "committed political suicide." Van Buren and Clay had compromised, it was believed,

(Continued on page 46)

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### **OUR MOST UNDERRATED PRESIDENT: JAMES K. POLK**

(Continued from page 44) -

to keep the Texas question out of the campaign because of its tangled overlap with the slavery question that would have them both on tenterhooks to get votes both North and South.

Jackson hastily called Polk to the Hermitage and told him that Van Buren couldn't get the nomination, nor could any of the Democratic intriguers for high position unite the party—not Cass, not Calhoun, not R. M. Johnson, nor even the widely esteemed Sen. Silas Wright, of New York—a staunch Van Buren man.

The convention will nominate a dark horse, said Jackson. "General," said Polk, "no political party in this country has ever nominated a dark horse for the Presidency."

"Then this could be the first time." said Jackson, "and I favor you."

Polk may have been thrilled inwardly, but he continued only to push his forlorn hopes for the Vice Presidency. Jackson and some of Polk's closest friends dropped hints to others about Polk as Presidential timber, but he wasn't an open candidate. However, the other V.P. hopefuls started running openly for President or Vice President, depending on how Van Buren made out.

On May 27, the Democratic Convention met in Baltimore. The delegates were in a state of confusion. Many who'd left home to vote for Van Buren had been cornered by Cass men, Calhoun men, Buchanan men, R. M. Johnson men-not to mention some Polk men with recommendations from Jackson.

On the first ballot, Van Buren had a majority but not the required two-thirds. Polk was not among those considered. It was Van Buren, 146; Cass, 83; R. M. Johnson, 24; Calhoun, 6; James Buchanan 4; Levi Woodbury 2, and Andrew Stewart, 1.

As the ballots continued, Van Buren lost votes. By the seventh ballot, he was down to 99 and Cass up to 123. The convention was disorderly and out of control as it adjourned for the day.

That night, Cave Johnson, Donelson, Gen. Gideon Pillow and George Bancroft (a Massachusettan)—all Polk men -as well as the governors of New Hampshire and Massachusetts, quietly told delegates that the convention could now select none of the declared candidates. Van Buren couldn't make it and the others had splintered the party. But James Polk, of Tennessee, had offended nobody and no section. He had always been truer to the party than to himself. Andrew Jackson was for him. Polk was a Southerner, but Governor Hubbard of New Hampshire would be glad to nom-

Next morning, Hubbard named him on the eighth ballot, and on the ninth ballot Polk had every vote of the convention! George Dallas, of Pennsylvania. got the running-mate position.

The world's first commercial telegraph message told Washington, D.C., that James Polk had been nominated in Baltimore. This made some people think that Samuel Morse's telegraph didn't work right. It had to be a hoax.

Days elapsed before word reached Polk in Columbia, Tenn., that he had replaced Van Buren as number one. He



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fell out of his hammock when he heard it. In Kentucky, Henry Clay recognized that the choice, impossible as it seemed, might beat him. Polk was not committed, as Van Buren was, to join Clay in opposing annexation of Texas. Most people thought Polk hadn't a chance against Clay.

The campaign was a bitter one. The Whigs sneered. "Who is James K. Polk?" He lacked charisma and mass charm, and while he was a sound debater he was no orator to match Clay. In all he was a cold, shy, frail, little man who seemed hardly an important figure in government. John Quincy Adams listed Polk's vote-getting drawbacks as he saw them: "Polk has no wit, no literature, no point of argument, no gracefulness of delivery, no elegance of language, no philosophy, no pathos, no felicitous impromptus, nothing that can constitute an orator but confidence, fluency and labor."

Vilification flew back and forth, while each party tried to promise the quarreling factions of the nation that it was on their side. Polk's "heretical grandfather" was dug up and used against him. Clay was accused of drinking, dueling, gambling. Polk had consistency in the past going for him, as well as steadfastness of character. Clay was shown to have shifted his beliefs with the political winds, and during the campaign he kept shifting ground with new winds—which lost him more ground.

The fluid strategies of the campaign make a long and fascinating story in themselves, but Polk, who lost Tennessee by about 100 votes, won by a narrow popular national vote and a 65-vote electoral margin.

Polk himself contributed a series of astute acts to his campaign. To name just one, he got the active support of all the men he'd defeated in his own party by pledging himself to just one term, leaving the future open to their ambitions.

POLK HAD MADE it known openly that he was for taking in Texas, and for settling the Oregon Territory dispute with Britain to establish our national boundaries. These were public issues. But not until several months in office did he say publicly what he told George Bancroft, his Navy Secretary, right after the inauguration. He wanted Mexico's California, too, and was determined to get it. This was Polk's own issue. The United States was to sweep from the Atlantic to the Pacific, north and south, and there would be an end for all time to any possibility of any other power claiming any of the land which was embraced in the very earliest colonies' "coast-to-coast" charters. Monroe had proclaimed the Monroe Doctrine. Polk was determined to do more about it than any other man.

He set two further chief aims for his administration. First, to reestablish the United States Treasury as the independent manager of U.S. money after years of financial and monetary crises. Second, to reduce our protective tariffs, which favored the industrial areas and hurt the farming areas and consumers.

He achieved all of these aims, all controversial, in his single term in the White House. The Treasury was not again substantially changed until the Federal Reserve Act of 1913. He had his way as a result of hard work, great risk taking, inflexible will, personal austerity for himself and Sarah in the White House, and astute political maneuvering.

The annexation of Texas was a foregone conclusion, but Polk pressed its details in such a way as to lay the groundwork for a straight sweep westward. The Republic of Texas did not have a firm claim to the Rio Grande line, either southward or westward. But Polk envisioned and pushed through the line of the Rio Grande to El Paso, where it

turns north, as the scope of the state of Texas. This called for conniving, risk and show of force to Mexico. Polk accepted all three. He signed the act of admission of Texas to the Rio Grande on Dec. 29, 1845.

The "Oregon Question" involved all land north of California and west of the Rockies, south of Alaska, England and the United States both claimed it. In the campaign of 1844, our claim to it all the way to Alaska was raised in the Democrats' slogan "Fifty-four forty or fight!" Polk knew this was an extreme demand and was determined to settle the question by a compromise with Britain. Involved negotiations, with threats of war. ended in Britain accepting an American proposal she'd earlier rejected—along the 49th parallel (the present northern boundary of Washington which extends east to Minnesota). Polk agreed and the Senate ratified it, 41 to 14, with Calhoun raging that Polk had "accepted defeat" in not getting Oregon all the way to Alaska. Historian David Muzzey has noted that we had no more claim to 54°40' than we had to China. The final settlement was a fair one.

Polk pushed through his treasury and tariff acts by dint of hard toil against serious opposition, and by Aug. 6, 1846, he had accomplished all of his aims but the acquisition of California (including New Mexico, Arizona, el al.).

He authorized an envoy to offer Mexico up to \$20 million, plus settlement of all damages. Mexico wouldn't hear his envoy. Then he sent a force under Gen. Zachary Taylor to the disputed Rio Grande area of Texas, an act Mexico considered aggression.

Polk and his Cabinet were weighing the possibility of war when word came that Mexican troops had attacked Taylor's forces. "Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States." Polk told Congress on May 11, 1846, "has invaded our territory, and shed American blood on American soil."

Congress declared war and supported the military operation as directed by President Polk. After Taylor's initial victories, Polk plotted in detail the strategy of the Mexican War. American forces won repeated victories, and even captured Mexico City, but still the Mexicans rejected treaty offers.

The strain of working night and day, amidst sharp criticism that he had deliberately sent an army into the disputed border strip to provoke Mexico, began to break Polk's already frail health.

Finally, in February 1848, Polk's envoy, Nicholas Trist, negotiated at Guadalupe Hidalgo, a suburb of Mexico City, an agreement by which Mexico ceded our present southwest to the United States in return for \$15 million,

(Continued on page 50)

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### OUR MOST UNDERRATED PRESIDENT: JAMES K. POLK

-(Continued from page 49)-

plus American assumption of claims against Mexico totalling \$3,250,000. On July 4, Polk proclaimed the treaty in effect. His satisfaction at attaining his final objective undoubtedly was reduced by his opponents' clamor that "Mr. Polk's War" had seen 1,721 killed, 4,102 wounded, 11,155 dead of disease, military and naval expenditures of more than \$97,500,000—and it need not have been fought at all.

Only by constant work through individual contacts, with rank and file congressional members as well as leaders, did Polk achieve victory for his administrative measures against such opposition as John C. Calhoun, who was perhaps the most profound political brain of 19th century America.

F CONSIDERABLE benefit to the modern study of American history has been the detailed diary Polk methodically kept from Aug. 26, 1845, to June 2, 1849. It comprised 25 closely written volumes, each containing from 100 to 250 pages. It remained in the possession of the Polk family until 1901, when it was purchased by the Chicago Historical Society, Finally, in 1910, edited by Milo Milton Quaife, it reached publication in four volumes. It has since tended to bring forth a more admirable view of Polk himself and a much higher estimate of the four years which, judged by results, have been surpassed in importance by very few periods in American history.

In March 1849, after seeing his successor, Zachary Taylor, inaugurated, James K. Polk and his wife began their homeward journey to Nashville, where, in retirement, the childless couple would live in a big brick house Polk had bought some time before from Felix Grundy. James Buchanan, who'd been Polk's Secretary of State, remarked, after seeing the Polks off, "He's been the most laborious man I've ever encountered, and in a brief four years he has assumed the appearance of an old man."

In Nashville, Polk missed Andrew Jackson, who had died in June 1845. Then, on June 15, 1849, less than four months after retiring from the Presidency, he died at 53, a victim of exhaustion. A few hours before his death he summoned an old minister friend and

became a member of the Methodist Church.

For 43 years after James's death, Sarah Polk lived in their home in Nashville. Throughout all those years of widowhood she dressed in deep mourning, and she said she felt as if her husband's presence were always with her.

Polk has been more harshly judged than other Presidents for playing political games that they all played. He was courteous and pleasant with self-serving politicians who tried to bend him from his course. He announced from the start that he would be "President, myself," and openly stated his aims. When he never swerved from his course, there was bitterness among those who thought they'd talked him into deviating in their direction. No question that—more like a Yankee trader than a Southerner—he let those who would frustrate his aims believe they'd influenced him.

In one case, he was accused of doublecrossing when, in fact, he undid a double-cross. The House and Senate were jealous of their prerogatives. The House wanted to spell out by law the terms on which Texas would be annexed (and thus have a say in it). The Senate wanted to negotiate the annexation through a Presidential Commission, whose members would be approved only by the Senate. Neither chamber could agree, yet both wanted Texas annexed. Polk-as President-elect—suggested to powerful Senator Thomas Hart Benton (Mo.) that the Congress pass both provisions in an act that would let the President choose which he'd employ.

Benton got the two houses to agree on that, but thought he had the House outfoxed by getting a private understanding from Polk that he'd choose the Senate version. Perhaps he did have the House fooled. But the bill was passed just before Polk was inaugurated, since it was the dying Congress that was trying to run the Texas show. Outgoing President Tyler, also seeking lame duck credit for Texas, took the choice to himself in the last days of his term. Tyler sent envoys to Texas to arrange the matter under the House provisions. Benton was furious that Tyler stole a choice intended for Polk and undid his scheme to trick the House. But he expected Polk to reverse Tyler's choice right after Inauguration Day.

Polk actually preferred the House version. Since Tyler had taken the choice to himself, Polk let it ride, merely replacing Tyler's envoys with his own. Senate leaders held Polk to be "immoral" when, thanks to Tyler's action, he adjudged himself free of their plan to deceive the House. Throughout his political life,

(Continued on page 52)





## Hello, my name is Norris Strauss ...

## and I've got to get something off my chest before I explode!

You may think I'm a big shot for putting a full page ad in The Legion Magazine Actually I just work at a regular job which I enjoy. I was born and raised in Brooklyn as were my parents—I have many relatives here. I've only moved once in 28

I'm not a racetrack character, nor am I fronting for anybody. Instead of a yacht, sports car and six figure bank account as system writers boast, I drive an ordinary klunker and live in a modest apt. (my family says it's too modest). But I have plenty of leisure and a local rep as a studious neighbor who burns the midnight oil. I was always fascinated by serious research on old Racing Forms to see what I could come up with . . . well, after many disappointments, I finally found the pot of gold.

I've hit onto something so royally big that I feel like the Chinese with a tiger by the tail, and it's driving me nuts! I went into a spin and ordered a whole stack of back issue Racing Forms, and I found a winning secret that WORKS, period. I can't express the joy of this achievement, nor the sense of power or well being-I feel

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Maybe I shouldn't bring this up, as I have no proof and won't mention names. But something is odd—these horses are winning when they "shouldn't." If I've cracked a code involving track management, publishers or horsemen, or any related combination thereof, I'm ecstatic. If some group is making money on these winners, well-

I checked this method on old Racing Forms for the following periods: Nov. 65 through Apr. 66; Aug. 67 through 68; Jan. 69 through Sept. 69. All periods proved very profitable. Tightening the rules might improve it, but it looks great as is. Were these just lucky periods?

The system selects about 4½ plays per day per track, so you can see this gets plenty of action. Past results have shown that you can expect to make about \$962 profit on \$20 win bets per month at one track. Winners will average about 30% with an average win mutuel of about \$9.55.

It's completely mechanical and requires no judgment. It's really simple. If I were dying, I could whisper it to you in about 100 words (60 if I had rehearsed the scene). All you need is the Racing Form or Morning Telegraph. No need to be at the track.

Ever did anything wild on a lark? Want to join this adventure, come what may, for \$10? Ever thought of following the sun from track to track? Or perhaps playing the horses at the legal bookies in Vegas or Caliente? No job worries, no boss, sleep late, plenty of money—but most important of all, living the kind of life so few people are ever able to.

One last word. You've seen system sellers using aliases from p.o. boxes and mail drops. Has any one of them ever signed his real name, given his history, worked for an honest living, stayed put over 60 days, or cared for anything except getting your money? Weigh that.

I can rush my complete secret to you by return mail for \$10. Check me out. Do what I did. Take any back Racing Forms over a reasonable period of time. Apply my system. If you can show me that it doesn't work, I'll NOT ONLY REFUND YOUR \$10 BUT I'LL DOUBLE IT AND SEND YOU \$20. Fair enough?

State of New York County of Kings

OATH

I hereby swear and affirm that I guarantee to refund double the cost to any purchaser who checks my method out on back Racing Forms over a period of at least 3 months and finds that it does

norres Strauss Sworn to before me

> Frank Stayer FRANK GAYER

Notary Public State of New York NO. 24-6473975

### READ HOW THOSE USING MY SYSTEM ARE MAKING OUT WITH IT

I can't thank you enough for this system. So far all my back checking has proven to be correct. The following results were obtained through diligent checking:

July I to Aug. I, 1970
July I to Aug. I, 1970
Aug. 3 to Aug. 29, 1970
Aug. 3 to Sept. 30, 1970
Aug. 31 to Sept. 30, 1970
Mar. 27 to April 10, 1971
July 24 to Aug. 31, 1970
Mar. 24 to April 10, 1971
Mar. 24 to April 10, 1971
Mar. 26 to April 10, 1971
Mar. 27 to April 10, 1971
May 29 to June 28, 1970
Aug. 1 to Sept. 12, 1970 (21 days) (27 days) (20 days) (25 days) (13 days) (32 days) (15 days) (17 days) Hollywood Park \$1,394 \$814 \$826 \$862 Aqueduct Saratoga Belmont Park Golden Gate Del Mar \$600 \$4,252 \$930 \$1,000 \$400 \$2,378 Bowie Santa Anita Aqueduct Longacres

I can just hardly believe it! Thanks to you I can win at the races!—C.M., Seattle

At Golden Gate here from Feb. 16th opening day to March 24th the system showed a net profit of \$1728 on a \$20 flat win bet. A \$10 win \$10 place bet showed \$1257 net profit. From March 24th to present—the overall profit has decreased to \$1200 flat win (\$20).—B.S., El Cerrito, Calif.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Everything you said is true. You have come up with the best system ever. I've tried to strengthen it, break it, refine it but I simply cannot come up with any way to improve on it. My success has been at the Liberty Bell and even when I wasn't at the track I figured the races and your

method proved itself time and time again.—D. F., West Chester,

I am the owner of many racing systems, all which are very good. When I received the system which I ordered from you I tried the system, I checked and rechecked it, and I can truthfully say that its one of the best systems I own.

—M. F. W., South English, lowa

Enclosed find results at the track for the last 2 months. It's incredible. I am ahead by \$1550. You may use my name for any testimonial.—L. O., Los Angeles, Cal.

Incidentally, I find that the system's choice comes in 2nd often enough that it pays to bet both win and place. In fact winnings as far as I've gone are just about double by betting both. Thanks for being one honest solicitor.—

B. F., Gila Bend, Ariz.

I owe you a million thanks. Just 1 have been checking your like you said, it doesn't work at all times, but I'll be honest with you the highest number always have found it profitable.—N. S., Lordin, Ohio

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### OUR MOST UNDERRATED PRESIDENT: JAMES K. POLK

(Continued from page 50) -

Polk gave evidence of a cool ability to read the minds of other politicians better than they could read their own. He could well have sensed, when he made the promise to Benton, that given a chance Tyler would free him from it. Tyler was inordinately ambitious, and Polk read ambition in others like a book, while he was the calm master of his own.

History has also tended to moralize Polk's expansionist drive, and to find him a "bad" President because he willfully accepted war with Mexico as the speediest means to deprive her of vast holdings.

This is all too easy. We cannot see what would have happened to California. Arizona, New Mexico, etc., had Polk kept his hands off. Britain and Russia had ambitions there, while the American people were pushing west on their own. They had pushed into Texas on their own and then driven Mexico out, and there is no question that Polk saw that they were going to keep pushing, that trouble with Mexico all the way to the Pacific was in the cards sooner or later.

The popular sentiment on the annexation of Texas-which made it Democratic Party policy and defeated Van Buren and Clay-was: "If Mexico doesn't like it, so what?" Except for Polk's private revelation to Bancroft, the first public mention of his intent to own California appeared in an editorial in Polk's mouthpiece newspaper, the Washington (D.C.) Union, three months after the inauguration. After Texas, "who can arrest the torrent that will pour westward?" the editorial asked. "Who will stay the march of our western people?" Volunteers could be found in "every quarter of the Union" to seize California.

The Union editorial—Polk's voice was the earliest prophet of the push of the Forty-Niners and the immigrant trains that rolled westward only four years later and kept rolling for a generation.

Only if we could see both versions of western history—the one that happened, and what might have happened had Polk not resolved to settle it quickly-could we say he served us and Mexico better or worse by taking the bull by the horns.

A tougher question today is this: "Who is qualified to judge Polk?"

Polk's own share of the gains was calumny and an early grave for his toils. He chose to be his country's instrument, and not its judge. We accepted what he took, and have not yet offered to return it to Mexico-leaving us a difficult moral problem if we are to judge him. There is no need to excuse him, but he deserves equal consideration—for better or worse -with Jefferson, who fomented revolution against the French in the West Indies in pursuit of the Louisiana Purchase,

and with other Presidents who risked or found war seeking what they saw as their country's interests.

There are numerous indications that Polk saw in national expansion the sole possible means of diverting his people from their concentration on the hatreds over slavery and the quarrels between farm and factory interests that were visibly destroying and paralyzing the land. Today, we tend to forget that civil war was the only way to eradicate slavery in any of the states. There was no legal power in Congress or in any President—and no possibility of a Constitutional amendment—to outlaw it. Though a Southerner himself, Polk saw and said that the power of the slave states, with Texas added, would be reduced with the settlement of all the lands of the West and Northwest to the Pacific. Short of civil war, this was the best and only straw to grab at to help slavery dry up and blow away, as he hoped it would.

Having an inflexible vision of our inevitable expansion and a determined concern to raise the nation's sights above its internal quarrels, he probably cared little for the moral judgments of historians or the bad name that his political opponents gave him. During his term, his opponents heaped on him the unfavorable reputation that many historians have largely accepted, and it didn't budge him from his course.

One thing is certain. Whether one judges James Knox Polk for better or worse, his impact on this nation was so enormous that any history errs which makes him a "forgotten President." He does not stand with Tyler, Pierce, Fillmore, Taylor, Buchanan, et al. In shaping the nation he stands with Washington and Jefferson, each of whom, with Polk, established very roughly one-third of the original 48 states as U.S. territory.

Editor's note: The shortness of a magazine article cheats readers of thousands of details of Polk's life and times. An excellent multi-volume work is Charles Sellers' several Polk volumes published in recent years by the Princeton University Press.

Noel Gerson's 1965 novel about Polk ("The Slender Reed," Doubleday) starts with this quote from Jackson to Rep. John Bell just before the 1844 election:

"You say, sir, that James K. Polk is a slender reed, and so he is. Buffeted by the fierce winds of his enemies, he bends, but his spine is strong and supple, and does not break; partisan gales tear at him and the foreign foes of his country would break him, if they could, but his great roots are planted deep in the fertile soil of Union and Democracy. He points to the stars, and this slender reed will lead our people to new glory. This, sir, is James K. Polk.

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### **OUR LOOMING ELECTRIC POWER SHORTAGE**

- (Continued from page 12)

ash out of the smoke going up the 500-foot, red-and-white striped stack. Huge cooling towers stretch out in two lines nearly a mile long. Standing on top of the boiler, 16 stories in the air on a thin open metal catwalk, it seems the very symbol of industrial power.

By contrast, the same company's nuclear plant at San Onofre, Calif., was quiet and clean. You see the domed top of the two-inch-thick armor-plated sphere containing the reactor, but not a lot else. There's a deck with a massive turbine no different from the coal plant turbine. It's only the power source that's different.

Inside the control room you hear only the gentle hum of the turbine, in sharp contrast to the hellish roar of a big coal-fired boiler which can be felt 200 yards away. Like all utility stations, the control room at San Onofre has a vast array of dials, winking lights and switches, most of them controlling the 450 million watts fed into the transmission lines.

But at San Onofre there's a red line painted across the control room floor. By AEC regulations a qualified watch officer must be inside that line at all times. Only five men were on duty—a senior operator, two licensed assistants and two apprentices. They are responsible not only for the reactor itself, but for the feedwater heaters, turbines, condensers, pumps, flash evaporators and other equipment needed to turn nuclear heat into electricity.

I was surprised to find that none of the operators are college graduates. This, I learned, is usual in the power industry and almost invariable with Southern California Edison. SCE wants men who'll operate the plant reliably, not experiment with it. It spends about \$50,000 training highly paid apprentices just out of high school and the military to be assistant operators. The Atomic Energy Commission examines them and grants licenses, and at any time can and does examine them again.

"They can walk in and ask any question out of those books," Tom Woizeski, a 50-year-old senior reactor operator told me. He pointed to a shelf five feet long, and invited me to ask his crew anything I liked. After I'd played "examiner" for a while I found that these watch operators know their machinery inside out.

We went through the station, examining anything I wanted to. The nuclear operators are proud of their station, and upset about recent publicity from nuclear critics. "Those guys never come here to find out anything," Tom Woizeski said. "They just complain." We looked at the blue glow from fuel ele-

ments sunk in 30 feet of water; talked to the health physicist who examines everyone coming out of a radiation area. The power company monitors every bit of radioactivity around San Onofre, even going so far as to trap jack rabbits in the hills outside the station so they can examine their thyroid glands for traces of radioactive iodine. They never find any.

On the way out of the health physics lab you have to pass through a radiation counter built into the doorway. A loud buzz made me jump halfway across the room—the luminous dial of my wristwatch had set it off.

There's never been an accident endangering the public health in an AEC licensed power reactor or a Navy re-



"Being a bum for thirty years hasn't been a loss. I've finally conquered my fear of failure."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

actor. The Fermi melt-down did not a thing to Michigan. San Onofre has been through one bad fire in the electrical control system, but it's impossible for fires to affect the reactor itself inside that armor-plated sphere. Anything that happens in the sphere is contained by it—that's its purpose. I left the men who operate San Onofre much assured about nuclear power. They know what they're doing.

Instead of turning out mountains of ashes, atomic power plants produce small volumes of radioactive wastes. These cause a great deal of public scare, largely based on ignorance of how they're handled. Public education on atomic power is far behind public miseducation on it. Some people imagine vast quantities of radioactive wastes thrown around loose. The AEC developed the technology to put the wastes into solid glass blocks and store them in the deep, underground tunnels of abandoned salt mines, kept under guard. One day we might put them in abandoned coal mines, just to be properly symbolic.

Their total volume is surprisingly small. After 14 years, we have 21 nuclear plants generating just about 8½

(Continued on page 56)

# How to get rich

How can you get rich some day? Make a hit record . . . a killing on the stock market . . . or invent a gadget like the hula hoop?

For most of us, these are just dreams. But have you ever stopped to think that there is a way to get rich—possibly only one sure way? Most fortunes, as you know, are made by people who own their own business.

Perhaps you've thought of starting a small business of your own . . . a franchised drive-in, or maybe a service business. Trouble is, you need \$10,000 to \$15,000 to get started and even then it's a gamble—with slim chance of ever making really big money.

But there is one business which could make you rich-almost overnight! And the beauty of it is, you can start on a

while holding your regular job.

## Cash by Mail

shoestring during your spare time, even

The business is Mail Order—and it's fabulous! Come up with a 'hot' new item . . . and WHAM!

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Like the Vermont dealer who ran one ad in Sports Afield Magazine. His ad pulled 22,000 orders—over A HALF MILLION DOLLARS IN CASH!

There is no other business where you

can make a fortune so quickly!

• A beginner from Newark, N.J. ran
his first small ad in House Beautiful offering an auto clothes rack. Business Week reported that his ad brought in \$5,000 in orders. By the end of his first year in Mail Order, he had grossed over \$100,000!

 Another beginner—a lawyer from the midwest, sold an idea by mail to fisherman. Specialty Salesman Magazine reveals, "he made \$70,000 the first three months!"

## **Proof**

It's a fascinating business! Running ads in newspapers and magazines . . . mailing gift catalogs . . . getting cash orders in your daily mail—steady as

clockwork.

There is no other business where you can start on a shoestring and pyramid your profits—without investing in mer-chandise! One husband and wife mail order team took in \$40,000 selling one item. They obtained FREE ads in na-tional magazines tional magazines . . . didn't invest a cent in merchandise, and even got the supplier to ship all orders for them!

These exceptional cases are absolute proof that you can get rich in your own Mail Order business. Very rich. Even a U.S. Gov. Report stated: "A number of one-man Mail Order enterprises make up to \$50,000!"

Pick up any magazine. Notice how the same mail order ads are repeated

. month after month? That's concrete proof! You know those ads wouldn't be repeated over and over again—unless they were bringing in big cash profits to their owners.

## The Secret

The secret of getting rich in Mail Order lies in financial leverage. It's a little-known, almost secret method—using other people's capital to make money

for you!
You can get thousands of dollars worth of advertising in big national magazines—without investing your own money! And you don't have to write a single ad. Tested and proven ads are prepared for you by experts. Reinvest the profits from your first successful ad —to get more, larger ads, and the profits begin to snowball! It's like building a chain of stores . . . each new store puts more money in your pocket.

You mail out beautiful catalogs which offer hundreds of dollars worth of fine, quality gifts-yet you don't invest one



The thrill of receiving money in your mail is one you'll never tire of!

cent of your own money in merchandise! Your catalogs are printed with your name and address, so all orders come to you. Everything is "drop-shipped" for you, and there's up to 100% mark-up! You pocket the cash profits immediately—even before the orders are shipped to your customers!

Repeat orders alone, just from mailing catalogs, could bring you a steady income for the rest of your life!

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### **OUR LOOMING ELECTRIC POWER SHORTAGE**

(Continued from page 54) million kilowatts of electricity. All of their accumulated wastes could be put in one solid glass block no more than 30 feet on a side—a volume similar to one roomy residential home. These radioactive wastes actually take more volume, because the liquid wastes are highly diluted—for safety.

What few people realize, because they have heard so much scare talk about radiation, is that atomic power plants reduce even the radiation "danger" from burning coal. Small amounts of natural radium in coal send more radiation into he environment from a coal-burning power plant than a nuclear plant releases. There is no danger, in either case, and this brings us to conclusion number

5. People who don't know or care what they are talking about are obstructing power development with scare talk and legalistic ploys.

The trouble is that after 25 years of atomic energy the public has learned so little about radiation that it is easily scared by perfectly senseless alarmists. There was a hue and cry, two years ago, that the government was villainously endangering the public by allowing a "dangerous" top limit of 170 millirems a year as the amount of radiation that atomic power plants might add to the general environment. The average person doesn't know what a millirem is, or what 170 of them are. To play safe, we tend to believe that, if someone says on TV or at a public hearing that 170 millirems are too much, he's probably right. This kind of talk is forever bogging down the public hearings that must preecde erecting new power plants. And it s atrocious nonsense.

THE FIRST 17 nuclear power plants in the U.S. release two one-thousandths of one millirem into the general environment a year. When we have 82 nuclear plants (all those now in operation or under construction), they will release one one-hundredth of one millirem to the nation. It will take 17,000 times that to reach the government limit of 170 milli-

What are 170 millirems a year in terms of life and death? A millirem is an unbelievably tiny amount of radiation An instantaneous exposure to 450,000 millirems would give you a 50-50 chance of living. The average background radiation in the United States that has probably been with us throughout history is 125 millirems. If you went by land from sea level to Denver, you would increase your dose of cosmic radiation from outer space from 35 millirems to 70 millirems. As we've noted, one can of beer has as much radiation in it as our

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3

first 17 nuclear power plants add to our environment in a year.

These comparisons could go on endlessly. They add up to this: when we have 17,000 times as much general radiation from nuclear plants as the first 82 will give us, we will reach the government limit of 170 millirems. We'll never get there. If we did, it would give each of us 30 millirems less radiation in a year than we get in one second from one chest X-ray.

Scare talk about such small amounts of radiation is replete with mention of cancer, leukemia, etc. These are actual dangers from much more massive doses. To give you an idea, the survivors of the atom bomb at Hiroshima were carefully studied. Not one person who'd received as much as 125,000 millirems developed leukemia. We probably couldn't build enough nuclear plants in this century to put one millirem into the general environment. There isn't a shred of evidence that there'd be a single health danger if we should generate all the electricity we will ever need from nuclear power. But there is plenty of evidence that air pollution from coal and oil burners is causing acute respiratory and circulatory seizures. From Los Angeles to Donora, Pa., to London, smog has filled graves.

In their immediate vicinity, of course, atomic reactors produce higher radiation than they add to the general level of the nation. It fades rapidly with distance. The AEC once allowed 500 millirems per year as the top limit for the nearest human habitation to a reactor. They call this the "fencepost" limit. But since the plants were seldom exceeding one millirem a year at the "fenceposts," the legal limit was reduced from a perfectly safe 500 to five.

When General Electric recently advertised that its power plant reactors were not exceeding five millirems per year, it meant at the "fenceposts." (Actually, they seldom exceed one "fencepost" millirem per year.) As GE said, the Statue of Liberty puts out a great deal more.

It's easy to see why even five millirems don't bother the employees or the authorities. There's a spot in New York's Grand Central Station where the background radiation is 525 millirems per year. The UN building has areas that put out about 250. In both cases, the increase is from thorium in the granite, which was quarried at Millstone Point, Conn. By sheer coincidence, that is the site of a GE reactor, which will produce far less radiation at the "fenceposts" than the Millstone Point granite quarry has been putting out for ages without bothering anyone.

Another public fear is that by accident a nuclear power plant fuel cell

(Continued on page 58)

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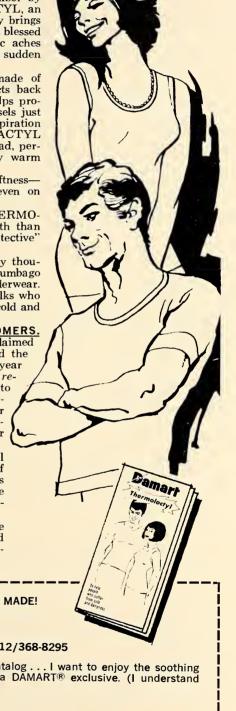
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## WHAT'S AHEAD FOR AUTOS? A LOOK AT LIFE INSURANCE. METRIC SYSTEM COMING.

Temporarily, at least, the upward march of auto prices has been halted by the President. What this means to you is that:

- Theoretically you can buy a domestic 1972 job for about the same price, or a bit less, than the comparable 1971 model.
- Meantime, the price of foreign cars—despite the 10% import tax—hasn't changed much.
- So, on paper, the auto buyer is ahead of the game, providing, of course, that he can make a favorable trade-in. If he can't, he will lose some or all of his advantage.

Longer range, though, auto prices are bound to rise. More safety features have to be built into the vehicles in the years ahead, and the costs of materials will go up. Moreover, a price differential between U.S.-built and foreign cars will continue as long as the wage differential (both blue-collar and white-collar) persists. For example: Right now we pay about \$7 an hour on the production line, whereas Germany pays \$3.50 and Japan about \$1.50.

What does all this portend? Obviously one or more of the following: Continued drives for more efficiency in Detroit with fewer model changes; continued high levels of imports (about 16% of our market is going to foreign brands), and a declining preference for middle-of-the-line cars in favor of the peewees.

\* \* \*

Although life insurance usually isn't classified as a very good inflation hedge, sales keep setting new records. The big reason is the desire for family protection in case the breadwinner dies. That brings up the question of how much protection is adequate?

There's no pat answer, because you have to assess age, marital status, wealth, health, etc. But a rule of thumb, often used by insurance people, is that your total life insurance (ordinary, group, GI, etc.) should come to four or five times your annual income. At any rate, if it's less than that, take a fresh look at your situation.

Other points to check out regularly: Are your beneficiaries and contingent beneficiaries properly named? Have the best settlement options been chosen (remember, a lump sum isn't the only—nor necessarily the best—settlement)? Can you save money by paying premiums annually?

As for the desirability of buying life insurance on a wife, that pretty much comes down to a matter of family resources. If the pocketbook can stand it, such insurance has its good points. But if it's a choice between husband and wife, the man is the best bet.

\* \* \*

Now that the Commerce Department has recommended that the U.S. shift to the metric system of measurement, you can expect some long debates and harsh words on Capitol Hill. Eventually, though, it is likely that the change-over will be made—but over a period of years.

What's behind the drive for the metric system now is that it presumably would improve our exports to the tune of several billions annually. As is, we are the only major nation in the world not fully on the system, so the confusion works against us. Moreover, educators and scientists complain that we currently are in complete bedlam. As every veteran knows, much of our military gear is calibrated metrically; so are optical equipment and many pharmaceutical products. But everything else is measured some other way, creating huge problems of conversions and errors.

The metric system, on the other hand, is simplicity itself. It has only three basic units—the gram for weight; the meter for length, and the liter for volume—and these all work on multiples of 10, 100 and 1,000.

By Edgar A. Grunwald

### OUR LOOMING ELECTRIC POWER SHORTAGE

-(Continued from page 57)might explode like a bomb. No nuclear scientist would relish being asked to make an atomic explosion with the fuel used in our atomic power plants. It is uranium oxide, whose reaction slows down as it heats up. The bomb designer needs an accelerating reaction, and uses pure uranium metal in order to achieve the critical mass for an atomic explosion, No industry has a better accident record than atomic power. Worldwide, there have been four serious accidents with reactors. A nuclear explosion was not one of them, and nobody off the premises was harmed by any of them.

THE RED TAPE that precedes construction of a new power plant is unbelievable. It allows the most wild-eyed publicity seekers to dominate and delay construction. As many as 45 state, local, county and federal agencies may be required to give approval before a new plant is licensed. Many bureaus hold public hearings, and the hearing officers have no authority to dismiss frivolous testimony. "Conservationist" lawyers know this, and can drag hearings out for months or years. These delays tie up millions of dollars in capital and wreck construction schedules and plans, boosting costs and increasing power shortages.

These procedures need streamlining. The hearings are to protect the public, but they are so liberal that they are being used to abuse the public. Craig Hosmer, of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, recently suggested that all witnesses should be heard, but deprived of any power to delay proceedings. "I'm not really sure that the presence of a lot of environmental dilettantes and their hovering legal eagles has ever contributed much to nuclear safety or ever will." he said.

The public needs protection from nuclear accidents and from being abused by overweening and influential corporations. But the machinery should be reshaped so that the country would not be dependent for its electric power on the outcome of legal games played by nonscientists who don't understand the issues they debate.

Time is running out on us to provide the electrical power we'll need very shortly to avoid a complex web of disasters. We have the means at hand to provide it, and at the same time strike a lethal blow to pollution. It'll be a helluva note if self-styled "conservationists," "ecologists" and "environmentalists" see to it that we end up crippled for want of power, still depleting our fossil fuels, and still breathing coal and oil pollution.

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## PARTING SHOTS



"How did you make out at camouflage school, Reedley?"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

### HOUSEKEEPING-AMERICAN STYLE

After years of studying, a European couple finally passed their citizenship exams. When the papers arrived in the mail, the husband rushed into the kitchen with the news: "Maria, Maria—at last we are Americans!"

"That's great," she replied, whipping off her apron. "Now you can wash the dishes."

LANE OLINGHOUSE

### POINT OF VIEW

A woman was asked if she had yet made the long trip to California to visit her son and his new wife.

"No." she replied, "I've been waiting until they have their new baby."

"Oh, I see," said the friend, "you don't want to spend the money for the trip until then."

"No, it isn't that," the woman explained. "You see, I have a theory that grandmothers are more welcome than mothers-in-law."

F. G. KERNAN

### WRONG KIND OF SHORTENING

Last week the newlyweds next door returned from their honeymoon. This morning I went over to invite the young bride for coffee and found her in tears. With some sympathetic prodding I learned they had had their first quarrel.

"Jim said the steak tasted funny last night," the new bride sobbed. Hoping to be helpful I asked, "How did you cook it?"

"I just broiled it. It did burn a little. But I immediately rubbed it with Vaseline."

BEVERLY M. PENNINGTON

### DUBIOUS TITLE

Conscientious objector: Shun of a gun
RAYMOND J. CVIKOTA

### DISSENT PEOPLE

Of all the protests by our youth, Some showy and some modest, I find that those against the Army Are amongst the oddest. Oh, we had scorn for service life, So youth did not begin it, But our complaints were seldom heard Till after we were in it.

BILL WEBB

### HOMEWORK

University: Where incoming freshmen study the highlights of last year's riots to see where the mistakes were made.

DAN BENNETT

### MALE OPINION

That dear, old-fashioned parlor game Of hugs and osculation Most likely wouldn't seem the same Called "Postal Corporation."

S. S. BIDDLE

### MODERN WAY

The Pill: Heir controller

SHELBY FRIEDMAN

### WINDOW SHOPPER

I love the new appliances
Whose beauty's unassailable
For which replacement parts will never,
Never be available.

E. B. DE VITO

### PUSH-BUTTON LUCK?

Some people nowadays seem to think the door to opportunity is equipped with an automatic opener.

H. E. MARTZ



"This is the rainy day you've been saving for."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE



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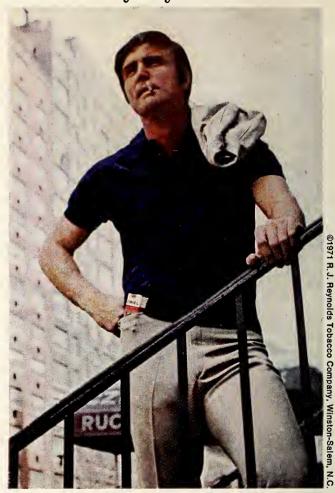


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